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Toronto metro

Your essential daily news | THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2015 | High 27°C/Low 21°C Sun and cloud

YOU CAN'T TOUCH THIS

JAYS MAKE ALL THE RIGHT MOVES TO BEAT INDIANS

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MIGRANT HORROR

We must do more

An officer carries a dead refugee child in Bodrum, Turkey, Wednesday. Turkish police said the boy was one of 12 people, including five children, who died this week trying to escape Syria's civil war. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

As the crisis worsens daily, Canadians have to pressure their leaders to act

metro COMMENTARY

As the world experiences its most serious humanitarian crisis in a generation, why has there been so little spoken about it in Canada's endless election campaign?

There were brief references to it on the campaign trial Wednesday but, so far, no detailed plan or proposal that matches the historic scale of the challenge.

There are a multitude of answers, of course, but none of them are uplifting.

In recent weeks, the approach by Canada's political class, led by its major political parties, seems to be based on a 21st-century notion about this country — that this worldwide refugee crisis really doesn't involve Canada directly, and really doesn't matter to Canadians.

With the crisis worsening by the day, it is time for this to end. We need to increase pressure on our politicians in this election campaign to push this issue aggressively to the fore.

What is currently confronting the world is a crisis of historic proportions. We are witnessing the largest movement of human beings since the Second World War. Although many are migrants seeking a better life, most are refugees escaping persecution in their own countries in the Middle East and Africa.

The most serious conflict is the four-year civil war in Syria, which has claimed more than 240,000 lives. The United Nations estimates that more than 11 million Syrians are on the move.

Millions have fled to overcrowded refugee camps in neighbouring Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey. But as these countries struggle to cope, millions of other Syrians are desperately trying to seek refuge in Europe or North America.

There have been chaotic scenes in recent days, as refugees find ways to enter Europe. Somewhat courageously, the German government of Chancellor Angela Merkel has just made striking moves to enable asylum seekers and refugees to arrive in Germany. A record 800,000 people are expected to come to Germany this year, four times as many as last year. That would be 40 per cent of the refugees being accepted by Europe as a whole.

Because of its proximity to the Middle East, the most dramatic flashpoints have been within Europe — Italy, Greece, Hungary and Germany. But that is also because of the resistance of countries such as Canada and the United States to help in any substantial way.

metro INSIDE
Story continues, page 10
More coverage, pages 11, 14

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metro NEWS

Your essential daily news

McDonald's all-day breakfast, just not in Canada. **Business**

Parents protest sex ed

CURRICULUM

Families threaten to pull children from schools

A growing number of parents across Greater Toronto who oppose Ontario's new sex-ed curriculum are making a desperate, last-minute attempt to get their kids out of the public system — considering home-schooling or private schools, even if just for a short time to show how upset they are.

"We feel hopeless," said Khalid Mahmood, a father of five who lives in Thorncliffe Park, whose three younger children will not be in class when schools open next week. "Our goal is to do home-schooling for a month, maybe longer," said Mahmood, who also helped organize a protest rally outside the Premier's office Wednesday.

"Our call is not anti-public school system, but we feel there should be a system that should accommodate all people."

He says he knows of hundreds of families in the Don Mills and Eglinton community who are planning to pull their kids out of public school, because their concerns over the curriculum have been ignored.

Rev. Dominic Tse of the North York Christian Community Church said parents are taking action now because they're "worried about what will happen when the new school year starts."

On Wednesday, the director of the Peel District School Board — which has been hard-hit by anti-sex-ed protests — took a tough stand, saying while parents can use religion to excuse their kids from learning about sex, they cannot do so for issues of sexual orientation or gender identity because all human rights must be respected.

He acknowledged the move might cause some families to flee the board, but later said he had received just one call from a father who threatened to do so.

Since the new curriculum was announced, opponents, made up mainly of different faith groups, have tried to derail it, labelling it age-inappropriate and overly graphic.

In the Muslim community, more established private Islamic schools that have long wait-lists and smaller facilities say they simply don't have the capacity to keep up with demand. Catholic schools in Peel — which will be teaching the curriculum within a religious context — have also had a few inquiries from worried parents looking for alternatives.

On some social media forums, parents have started putting out requests to find out if Islamic schools in their area are still taking students — with few options available, prompting families to think about educating their children themselves, or in groups.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Members of the Campaign Life Coalition pack the constituency office lobby of Brampton-Springdale Liberal MPP Harinder Malhi while protesting the planned implementation of new sex-ed classes, in Brampton on Wednesday. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

> **Our call is not anti-public school system, but we feel there should be a system that should accommodate all people.**
> Khalid Mahmood, protest organizer and parent

'CARDING'

Province is 'not entitled' to data

The provincial government cannot compel Ontario's police forces to hand over their data on street checks — including information as to how many times the controversial practice has helped solve crimes, according to Minister of Community Safety and Correctional Services Yasir Naqvi.

That means that as the province continues its review of street checks, commonly known as "carding," it will do so without knowing how often the practice has actually proved useful to investigations, by leading to an arrest, to the discovery of a weapon or drugs, or more.

"Legally we are not entitled to that data, under the Police Services Act, unless we require it in the regulation," Naqvi said Tuesday.

Naqvi said his ministry has been consulting with Ontario's Information and Privacy Commissioner about how to gain access to this policing data in aggregate form, stripped of any personal information.

"One of the reasons why this regulation is needed is to give the province the ability to require the disclosure of data, specific to how police services conduct street checks, to ensure that they are conducted in a way that is rights-based, fair and consistent across the province," Lauren Callighen, Naqvi's press secretary, said in an email. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Is TTC 'pedestrian-blaming'?

TRAFFIC SAFETY

Walk Toronto says tips on advertisements rarely factors

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

The TTC is being accused of victim-blaming after unveiling a safety campaign aimed at pedestrians and cyclists.

The "stay focused, stay safe" ads can be spotted on TTC property and carry warnings about jaywalking, wearing dark clothing at night or using your phone while crossing the road.

Only one of the ads appears to target drivers, reminding them to yield to buses.

"It's absolutely pedestrian-blaming," said Walk Toronto founder Dylan Reid. "They're picking on things that are almost never factors in pedestrian deaths and singling them out."

A June report from Toronto Public Health found more than two-thirds of pedestrian-vehicle collisions occur at intersections, compared to only 22 per cent mid-block. And according to the study, only 13 per cent of pedestrians were distracted at the time of collision.

The report also claims the majority — 67 per cent — of pedestrian-vehicle crashes can be attributed to driver error.

"If you look at all the statistics, the number one problem is driver action," said lawyer and pedestrian advocate Patrick Brown. "So, to turn around and point the finger at somebody's choice of clothing suggests you don't understand what's really going on out there."

TTC spokesman Brad Ross defended the agency, saying it isn't singling out or blaming pedestrians.

The TTC's new safety campaign has some critics accusing the transit agency of "pedestrian blaming." COURTESY TTC

> **The target audience for this campaign is pedestrians, but that in no way should imply that motorists don't have a responsibility. Indeed they do.**
> TTC spokesman Brad Ross

"The target audience for this campaign is pedestrians, but that in no way should imply that motorists don't have a responsibility," he said in an email to Metro. "Indeed they do: Driving safely at all times comes with the privilege of having a valid drivers' licence."

Ross said the TTC is also using a version of the ads to educate their drivers and operators about safety.

A Toronto Public Health analysis of crashes between pedestrians and transit vehicles found only 15 per cent of those hit by buses or streetcars were crossing without the right of way.

As someone who has represented pedestrians hit by TTC vehicles, Brown said the tone of the advertisements feels very familiar.

"They fight diligently in court to prove it was the pedestrian or cyclist's fault," he said. "The first thing they want to know is what colour of clothes were you wearing ... but in most cases it's not warranted."

Reid also criticized the TTC for failing to ensure pedestrians can safely access their stops and stations.

"The TTC is notorious for not caring at all how pedestrians get to their stops," he said. "They haven't intervened in things like getting the city to put in more crosswalks near TTC stops.

"I'd like to see that before they start lecturing pedestrians about how to walk."

1,068

As of July 2015, there have been 1,068 reported pedestrian-vehicle collisions in Toronto.
TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

25

Among those injured in pedestrian-vehicle collisions, 25 have resulted in a fatality.
TORONTO POLICE SERVICE

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Rachel Lissner is the founder of the Young Urbanists League on Facebook. The 1,200-member group helps foster an informal — but still important — form of civic engagement in Toronto, she said. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

They're young and they love their city

URBANISTS

Group fosters pride and civic engagement

Luke Simcoe
Metro | Toronto

Toronto's Young Urbanist League began like so many other movements: With a failed book club.

Having finished her urban studies degree at University of Toronto, Rachel Lissner missed the weekly lectures about civic issues. So, she decided to start a reading group based on The Death and Life of Great American Cities by Jane Jacobs.

"It failed miserably," the 27-year-old recalls. "I don't think anyone read the book. One person read the last chapter."

That was 2011. Two years later, Lissner tried again. This time, she and her friends finished the book and started reading others.

Now, what started as a group of seven friends reading a civic classic has grown into a 1,200-member Facebook community of budding urbanists.

"It just grew organically through Facebook and word of mouth," Lissner said. "I don't even have a website for it — maybe one day."

Dubbed the Young Urbanists League, or YUL, the group members discuss things like bike lanes and budgets and organize civic-minded activities.

In April, the group bused 50 people to Hamilton to hear from city planners, local bloggers and the people behind the city's wildly successful bike-share program.

The group called the trip "Hamiltime."

"We live in the GTHA, but there's a lot we don't know about Hamilton," Lissner said. "Like I didn't know municipalities other than Toronto had been amalgamated under (former premier) Mike Harris."

Two years after the group's inception, Lissner remains its beating heart. She keeps members updated about what's happening in the city and literally "likes" every post on Facebook.

> **I'm Toronto's No. 1 fan.**
> Rachel Lissner

Her work with the group was one reason why she was nominated as one of Samara Canada's Everyday Political Citizens for 2015.

"Her infectious enthusiasm for our city permeates her work — and her life," the organization wrote on its website.

While she's content to keep the group informal – she says it makes it easier for people to get engaged — Lissner also has some "lofty" goals for YUL, ranging from Ultimate Frisbee nights to neighbourhood walking tours.

"I'd also love to start an urbanism film festival, but I have no idea how to do that," she said.

Fortunately for Lissner, someone in the Facebook group probably does.

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Bid to save home mail delivery hits T.O.

CAMPAIGN

Postal workers union to stage rally on Friday

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

The national movement to save home mail delivery is bringing the fight to Scarborough.

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers is staging a rally Friday at the office of Conservative MP and party candidate Roxanne James. They will set up mock community mailboxes in an attempt to explain how Canada Post's plan to end home delivery is not practical.

"We want people to know that the Conservative party is not going to restore home mail delivery, but the other two parties will," said Derek Richmond, the union's Ontario regional co-ordinator. "Everybody already knows about the issue.

> **We just want people to go out and vote, and we want to defeat the Conservative government.**
> Derek Richmond

"We just want people to go out and vote, and we want to defeat the Conservative government."

The NDP has pledged, if elected, to reverse the decision to end home mail delivery. The Liberals, meanwhile, have promised to stop installing community mailboxes and review the plan.

The Save Canada Post Caravan campaign is traveling the country, targeting what Richmond called vulnerable ridings — those where Conservatives won by less than 5 per cent in the last election. James won the Scarborough Centre riding by less than a 3 per cent margin in 2011.

The campaign is also planning stops in other GTA ridings, including participation in Monday's Labour Day Parade.

"Many places have seniors and retirees and it's hard for them to get out, especially in winter time," Richmond said, stressing the need for door-to-door delivery. "It's very unsafe, especially for people with disability and mobility issues."

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Sewer grates and manholes are the main source of foul smells wafting up and lingering everywhere from Chinatown to Front Street. LIZ BEDDALL/METRO

HUMIDITY

Mother Nature causes stink in our downtown

Gilbert Ngabo
Metro | Toronto

Noticed that particularly sewage-like stench that's been hanging over downtown for the past several days?

Turns out you can thank Mother Nature — on all accounts. Heat mixed with high humidity has created something akin to a sewage bomb simmering beneath the streets.

Bill Shea's heard plenty about it. As director of water operations, he's been fielding calls from people who've noticed the eau de sewage everywhere from Chinatown to Front Street.

It really is, Shea said, just a fact of life in a city with 500 kilometres of sewers. With all those pipes pushing sewage through, a lot of air gets trapped.

"That air has to get out somewhere," he said, referencing sewer grates and manholes that help carry the smell to the surface. "In the summertime, it's very hot, and the humid air tends to carry those smells out more."

The situation is generally worse in places where sewers join together or change directions, he said.

> **That air has to get out somewhere.**
> Bill Shea, director of water operations

In order to mitigate the odour, Shea said the city has installed carbon filters underground and does regular sewer inspection, maintenance and cleaning.

"It's not like we have this old system that can't handle what we're throwing at it," he added. "We can do our best to control the odour that comes out, but that's a lot air movement."

At least one person considers the stench "a public and a private nuisance."

Mark Mattson, president of the Lake Ontario Waterkeeper office, is among those who gets calls when things get especially stinky.

While he simply refers most complaints to 311, Mattson insists at least some of the onerous odour could be addressed with better infrastructure.

"The city releases millions of litres of sewage into the lake every year because it can't deal with it any other way," he said. "Bad odour is just another consequence of an old infrastructure system that needs to be upgraded."

PUSH FOR THE OLYMPICS

Researcher weighs in

Torstar News Service talks with Janice Forsyth, an assistant professor in Western University's School of Kinesiology and a former director of the university's International Centre for Olympic Studies, on the discussion surrounding Toronto's proposed bid for the 2024 Summer Olympic Games. This conversation has been edited and condensed.

Q. Is Los Angeles the front-runner now?

A. In the Americas, definitely. It's been a long time since the U.S. has hosted a games. 1996 Atlanta was the last one.

L.A. is riding on their history of having generated revenue from '84. With L.A. being the only bid after Tehran pulled out, the IOC didn't have any choice but to acquiesce to the business arrangement that was being struck up in L.A. because the public said "no" to funding.

Q. And outside the Americas?

A. There's an unofficial rule of rotation that goes on with the Games. It's Europe, the Americas (including North and South America) and then everywhere else. So theoretically, it's Europe's turn.

Q. In '84 it was just Tehran and L.A. in the running?

A. No, Tehran pulled out. There was only one. L.A. was the only bid.

Every couple of decades cities realize that it's not a good deal, and then they pull out. Then the IOC makes promises about change and then people realize that change never really happened and then cities start pulling out. So we're kind of in that phase again.

Q. Would every city have to agree to take on overruns?

A. Absolutely. The IOC gives each city this contract, and you have to sign it if you want to stay in the race. And that contract is what people refer to as the blank cheque, because it basically says the Olympic industry is not responsible for the cost of hosting the Olympic Games, even though we'll take the revenue from it.

Q. Would the Toronto bid just borrow from the L.A. bid?

A. They're probably looking to see what L.A. is proposing, because let's admit it, L.A. is the front-runner in the Americas. So Toronto has to position itself against L.A.

If Mayor John Tory plans to bid for the 2024 Summer Olympics, he'll have to quell concerns in his own council about the financial risks involved. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

We know from past experiences that all of the bid cities will probably have around the same cost, because there's not one place that wants to look like it will cost more than the others, because that will rule them out of the competition.

We know they're all going to come out saying they'll re-use facilities or there's going to be adjustments that are made to some because of Agenda 2020. But there has to be something truly unique about a city that they offer to the IOC to make them stand out.

Q. In '84 it was just Tehran and Q. So what makes L.A. unique right now?

A. I haven't taken a close look at the bid. I think first of all, it's got a lot of infrastructure that they claim they can use. They've already got 100,000-seat facilities in abundance, and Toronto doesn't have one.

The IOC is always concerned about the main stadium because that's their show, that's where the opening and closing ceremonies are.

Toronto needs to get pretty creative in terms of how it's going to address the main venues.

IN BRIEF

Jamaica police charge man in teen's murder
Police in Jamaica have charged a 19-year-old man, Omar James, in the murder of 14-year-old Ricardo Williams of Toronto in Jamaica. Police say Williams was shot several times early Sunday morning at a wake in Kingston. Police have said Williams was visiting family in Jamaica at the time of his death. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SIU probes man's death
Ontario's police watchdog is investigating the death of a man after police found him on a city street while conducting an investigation (near Yonge and Maitland) Tuesday night. He was moved to the sidewalk, where he went into medical distress. The Special Investigations Unit says the man was taken to hospital, where he was pronounced dead. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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How many migrants?

CANADIAN EFFORT

Leaders debate the number of refugees nation should take on

Hungarian policemen stand guard near the Serbian border Wednesday. The EU has been at odds on how to deal with the influx of 332,000 people this year. SANTI PALACIOS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

As European governments struggle to cope with thousands of migrants arriving at their borders, Canada's federal leaders weighed in Wednesday on what Ottawa can do to help with the continent's worst refugee crisis since the Second World War.

Already this year, 332,000 refugees have streamed onto the continent, overwhelming the government response in some areas.

They are coming from countries such as Syria, Afghanistan, Kosovo and Eritrea, often risking their lives in the process.

Speaking about the crisis while on the campaign trail, the NDP and Liberal leaders said Canada should be doing more.

"Hundreds of thousands of people fleeing horrors .... we've got to start doing our fair share," said NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair, who offered few specifics.

The Liberals' Justin Trudeau criticized the Conservative government for its "meagre" efforts to take in refugees from the Middle East. The Liberals have pledged to take in 25,000 Syrian refugees should the party win the Oct. 19 election.

"We need to be making this situation better in various ways that, quite frankly, we're not doing at this time," Trudeau said.

Harper said Wednesday that finding a home for refugees is important, but that governments must also tackle the root cause of the problem, which he said was violence instigated by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

"We have plans to do more, but I would say repeatedly that as we are doing more, we can't lose sight of the fact that refugee resettlement alone cannot, in any part of the world, solve this problem," Harper said.

Harper has set a target of settling 10,000 migrants from Syria over the next three years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE, WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

COLUMN

Canada no longer a country of mercy

Story continued from front

In spite of promises to accept 10,000 Syrian refugees over the next three years, the Canadian government has been criticized by refugee groups as being laggard in what it actually delivers. In the past three years, only 1,300 Syrian refugees have been admitted. According to the UN, Canada has dropped from the fifth-highest refugee recipient in 2000 to the ranking of 15th last year.

It hasn't always been that way. In recent decades, Canada's doors were wide open to thousands of refugees. Since the 1970s, 6,000 Ugandan Asians fleeing Idi Amin's regime, 13,000 Chilean refugees escaping the dictatorship of Gen. Augusto Pinochet, 20,000 Jewish refugees from the former Soviet Union, as well as 18,000 Iraqis, 3,300 Haitians and many, many others were all welcomed to Canada.

There was also, of course, the dramatic response by Canadians in 1979-80 to the flood of refugees trying to escape communist Vietnam.

The government's initial commitment was to settle 500 Vietnamese, but through the actions of private sponsors, community and civic groups, that number eventually grew to more than 60,000.

> **It hasn't always been this way. In recent decades, Canada's doors were wide open to thousands of refugees.**

The "boat people" initiative turned out to be largely a "citizen-led" movement in 1979; that may now be the only realistic way for Canadians to help in this deepening Syrian crisis.

Tony Burman, former head of CBC News and Al Jazeera English, teaches journalism at Ryerson University. Reach him at @TonyBurman or at tony.burman@gmail.com.

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Without status, without peace

IMMIGRATION

Videos give face and voice to those by hurt by Tory legislation

A Palestinian man is caught in statelessness in Canada. A Mexican journalist battles against Ottawa to prove her country's inability to protect her. A Filipino caregiver describes her degrading experience as a temporary foreign worker.

These three migrants are among those whose stories are featured in an innovative multimedia project that puts a human face on the impact of drastic changes made by the Conservative government to the immigration and refugee system in the past decade.

Their stories in videos, along with a detailed report released this week, are part of an initiative called Never Home: Legislating Discrimination in Canadian Immigration, led by Vancouver-based advocacy groups No One Is Illegal and S**tHarperDid.

"The entire immigration system has been overhauled by this government. There are so many new policies. People have become numbers, and it's hard to understand the full impacts of these changes," said Omar Chu, of No One Is Illegal.

"Citizenship is harder to get, easier to lose. Refugees can lose their permanent residency by cessation. Family class is reduced. There are more and more temporary foreign workers. No one ever feels fully at home here anymore."

Chu said one common theme has emerged: how these new policies are, in effect, legislating discrimination and creating a class of less-worthy citizens.

The purpose of the Never Home initiative is to assess these reforms in the run-up to the Oct. 19 federal election.

"We wanted to use our creative talents to confront political injustices that we felt were occurring relatively unnoticed," said Sean Devlin, executive director of S**tHarperDid, an advocacy group formed by comedians and filmmakers.

"We hope that this project will help more Canadians see migrants as human beings, first and foremost, as people who are often forced to find a new home by global systems of power that Canada both contributes to and profits from."

Ottawa has refused to grant Hamoudi Gharaieb, a journalist from Gaza, permanent-resident status on humanitarian grounds, even though it can't deport him. CONTRIBUTED

Multimedia journalist Nicky Young, who grew up in Toronto's Beach neighbourhood, did some of the interviews for the project and was touched by the stories he heard.

"I cried a few times," said Young. "I realized (immigration) status is everything some people think about. I learned how I'd taken my status, my citizenship, for granted."

Hamoudi Gharaieb, 36, a Palestinian journalist from Gaza, came to Canada in 2010 to be with the Canadian woman who was his wife at the time. He never applied for legal status and was arrested by Canadian border officials in 2013.

Canada tried and failed to deport him, because Israel refused him entry, he says. Ottawa has refused to grant him permanent-resident status on humanitarian grounds, even though it can't remove him.

> **Why are we treated like second-, third-class citizens?**
> Hamoudi Gharaieb

"We are paying taxes here, but we have no status. My beef with Canada is the government is legislating immigration laws to take migrants' rights away. Why are we treated like second-, third-class citizens?" he asked.

Veteran Mexican journalist Karla Lottini says she was threatened when she uncovered fraud and corruption at a government cultural department. The 41-year-old fled to Canada in 2008 after a gun was pointed at her sister.

A refugee judge denied her asylum claim, citing her failure to "establish the existence of well-founded fear" or prove her country was incapable of offering her protection. She was ultimately granted permanent-resident status in Canada on humanitarian grounds in 2013.

"Canada says Mexico is a safe place and refuses asylum. I know of corruption, violence and impunity in Mexico. I'm the 1 per cent of people whose life was saved here," she said.

Hessed Torres, 29, came to Canada in 2014 under the old live-in caregiver program. Soon after, the former registered nurse from the Philippines learned the harsh realities of being a temporary migrant worker.

While she was brought in by a family to look after a man with multiple sclerosis, she says, her employer required her to do yard work and other duties that were not in her contract. Worse, she says, she was never paid for her overtime work.

She says she was later terminated because she failed a driver's exam and couldn't drive her client to medical appointments.

"I lost respect for myself," she said. "People tell me, you have so much skill and you talk fluent in English. But none of that matters because my status is so precarious."

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When tweets defeat candidates

Metro sits down with former Calgary-Nose Hill Liberal contender Ala Buzreba — who resigned after posts she made in her mid-teens came to light — to talk trolls, double standards and being a youth in politics

Omar Mouallem
For Metro

By now there are simply too many campaigns to name that have been ended by the Ghost of Social Media Past. But it's hard to think of a Canadian politician who's endured a public shaming as cruel as Ala Buzreba's.

The Liberal Party candidate in Calgary-Nose Hill recently resigned after inappropriate tweets she wrote in her mid-teens were unearthed and used like digital pitchforks to chase her out of the race. Many within the social media mob fixated on her gender, Arab ethnicity and Muslim faith. "Such a cute little terrorist," goes a typical comment.

Compare this to William Moughrabi, a Montreal Conservative candidate, who is also Arab. He didn't endure any bigoted backlash following revelations of inappropriate Facebook comments he'd made at nearly twice the age Buzreba was when she made hers.

Numerous studies, some as old as Facebook itself, have shown that women and feminine usernames incur anywhere from two to 25 times more trolling, threatening or sexual harassment than their male or masculine counterparts. The 20-year-old community volunteer, University of Calgary student and Alberta Young Liberals executive says she's dealt with trolls since her social justice passions drove her to online forums and Twitter in junior high.

Last June, shortly after announcing her candidacy, Buzreba learned that a blogger had Photoshopped and spread pornographic images of her being penetrated by Justin Trudeau. Sun Media columnist Tarek Fatah also equated her hijab with ISIS support. What followed with the scandal was merely a crescendo of the racism and sexism she suffered.

Buzreba spoke with Metro about the backlash, double standards and how shamings like hers could discourage youth from entering politics.

After Ala Buzreba announced her candidacy last June, a blogger Photoshopped pornographic images of her and spread them online. CONTRIBUTED

Metro: How has the scandal affected you?

Buzreba: The backlash is continuing to this day. People are mean to me and it's affecting my personal life. I've been kicked out of different organizations and clubs that I was a part of. I've had ex-supervisors disassociate with me.

When was the first time you were trolled online?

I was really interested in debate since the time I was 13 or 14. I would go online, read the news, look at what people are saying. I was in the "comments" section a lot, fighting back to people who were constantly belittling people like me — Muslim women. But I debate in a nice way; I don't look for fights.

> **People called me "Muslim trash" .... My hijab was always the focus. People are terrified of it.**
> Ala Buzreba

Tweets like "Your mother should have used a coat hanger" don't sound nice. What were you responding to?

"The only good Muslim is a dead Muslim," was one. At some point, you just throw it back at them. They don't like their own medicine. People called me "Muslim trash," "freeloader of the Liberal government." My hijab was always the focus. People are terrified of it.

It was only a year ago you told Jewish-Canadian pundit Ezra Levant to "Pack up and leave to Israel." Why'd you tweet that?

He had said something on the radio like, "Remember, this is Canada, not Gaza." I couldn't believe radio stations would (broadcast) his racist ad. Then I tweeted back. I knew about Ezra, because he'd attacked two people I went to school with, so stupid me for saying anything.

Do you admit your comment was at least equally racist?

Not equally. It was rude. It wasn't nice. But I didn't tell him to "go back to Israel." I told him to go there. I didn't even know where he's from.

Before the scandal, pornographic pictures of you were Photoshopped and spread online by a blogger. How'd you respond?

He wasn't the only one. There was a lot a of Photoshopped stuff. I was embarrassed to even tell anybody because I didn't want them to see the photos. We reported it to Facebook and Facebook said it's freedom of expression.

Did you ever grow numb to it?

No. It hurts every time. But the blows loosen the more you get it. If anything all the rude comments I got when I was younger helped me grow and develop some tough skin.

Do you think you can return to politics?

Yes. I have more to see and more to learn. I want to change how Canadian politics operates and I want more women and young people voting. It was exciting to have so many of my friends come out to volunteer politically for their first times.

Can parties expect candidates with clean online records?

If they held the standard of being perfect online, they'll have fewer and fewer candidates every year. The person you were on social media doesn't necessarily mean the person you're becoming or the person you are now. I go through my posts at age 13, and I think why did I post that — it was so lame. People change all the time.

What's your message to young potential candidates?

Be careful for what can be taken out of context. Be careful of people who just want a reaction out of you.

Interview has been edited for length.

Ghosts of social media past

1 Malcolm Azania, NDP, 2004

In the days of MySpace, the Edmonton candidate wrote that Jews were part of the "white supremacy" in an emailed debate unearthed a decade later. Azania presciently told CBC, "The Internet is the most efficient technology in the universe to make a jackass out of yourself."

2 Ray Lam, BC NDP, 2009

The young candidate resigned after photos on Facebook became public, including one where he was palming a woman's breast and another with his pants down. That he was gay or that it was Pride didn't matter to his opponents.

3 Deborah Drever, Alberta NDP, 2015

One inappropriate Facebook comment wasn't enough for the newly elected Alberta government to boot the 26-year-old, but a trail of media gaffes, including one in which she posed as a gang-rape victim for an album cover, definitely was.

4 William Moughrabi, Conservatives, 2015

After year-old Facebook comments like "Karma takes too long. I'd rather beat the s--t out of you now" surfaced, the Montreal candidate quickly apologized and closed his online accounts.

ELECTION 2015

Chief says he won't vote, even as AFN seeks to mobilize voters

The Assembly of First Nations says aboriginal voters could be deciding factors in as many as 51 ridings and, in a close race, could determine the outcome of the Oct. 19 federal election — if they actually cast ballots.

But AFN national chief Perry Bellegarde may have undercut his organization's campaign to mobilize aboriginal voters with a frank admission that he's never voted in the past and doesn't intend to do so this time, either.

"It's a very personal choice," Bellegarde told a news conference Wednesday.

He said he's never voted because he's been in various First Nations leadership roles and wanted to preserve the appearance of impartiality.

Moreover, Bellegarde said he was following the advice of First Nations elders who advised him against voting, arguing that the Crown has treaty obligations that must be honoured no matter which party forms government.

"Out of respect for those old people, I think that's why I haven't voted."

Such views are not uncommon among aboriginal peoples and are, at least partly, responsible for abysmally low turnout in elections. Elections Canada estimates that the average turnout for eligible voters on First Nations reserves is 44 per cent, well below the overall 61 per cent turnout in 2011.

Pressed by reporters to explain how he hopes to encourage others to vote if he won't do it himself, Bellegarde suggested he'll "revisit" his decision to refrain from voting. But in an interview a short time later, he dug in his heels, stressing his need to remain strictly neutral so that he can work with whomever forms government.

"If you have to choose, then you lose that impartiality and non-partisanship," he said.

At the news conference, Bellegarde unveiled the AFN's election priorities, to which it wants all parties to commit. The priorities — including increased funding for First Nations education, training, child welfare, health care and police services, creation of a national inquiry into missing and murdered indigenous women and an action plan to address violence against aboriginal women — are aimed at "closing the gap" between aboriginals and other Canadians.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mulcair, Harper thinking alike

ELECTION 2015

Leaders voice similar views on when a deficit is OK

NDP Leader Tom Mulcair addresses a rally during a campaign stop in Kamloops, B.C. Tuesday.
JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Stephen Harper and Tom Mulcair found themselves in unfamiliar economic territory Wednesday — sharing the same page on when they think it is acceptable to plunge the country into a deficit.

The Conservative and New Democrat leaders, along with their Liberal counterpart Justin Trudeau, still expressed sharp differences on the economic way forward following Statistics Canada's recession pronouncement a day earlier.

The three federal leaders attempted to put a bit more flesh on the bones of their respective economic positions after the agency reported on Tuesday that the economy had contracted for a second straight quarter — the technical definition of a recession.

But as they dealt with the fallout from the data, it was Harper and Mulcair who found themselves occupying the same position on an important related question: When is it okay to run a deficit?

Both leaders are opposed to them, and are promising balanced budgets if elected. But when asked about deficits, separately, on the campaign trail Wednesday, they gave strikingly similar answers.

Harper and Mulcair both agreed on the need for stimulus following the Great Recession of 2008-09.

"Back in 2008-2009, we faced two circumstances we do not face today, both of them are important," Harper said in North Bay, Ont., citing the drop in global output and the breakdown in the financial system.

"We are nowhere near those kinds of circumstances today," he added. "I do not believe you would run a deficit on purpose if the economy is actually showing growth. Our economy will grow this year and that is why we will keep the budget in balance."

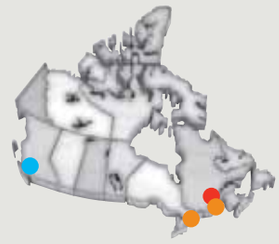
Speaking in Kamloops, B.C., Mulcair said: "We might recall back in 2008 when the worst financial crisis since the 1920s hit, it was obvious then that it was such a true head-on hit to the economy that spending was required and that's what was done."

Trudeau, meanwhile, said Harper and Mulcair share the same future decision if they have any chance of honouring their balanced budget promises — budget cuts.

"They want to cut programs and they hope in vain that the same plan that has been in place for the last 10 years will still work and will kick-start the economy," he said in Trois-Rivieres, Que.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

WHERE THE LEADERS ARE THURSDAY



- **Stephen Harper** will be in Surrey, B.C.
- **Justin Trudeau** will be in Montreal and Brossard, Que.
- **Tom Mulcair** will be in Montreal and Toronto.
- **Elizabeth May** will be in Quebec.

HOUSING

Homeless with $1.3M to offer

Emily Jackson
Metro | Vancouver

Kate Whyte and her family sold their house for $1.3 million hoping to downsize, but couldn't find anything. CONTRIBUTED

Kate Whyte found out the hard way that even a million bucks can't always buy a decent home in Metro Vancouver's insane real estate market, where home sales soared to nearly 30 per cent above the 10-year average this summer, according to Real Estate Board of Greater Vancouver data released Wednesday.

Whyte, a 48-year-old homemaker who works part time in the film industry, and her husband were looking to downsize to a smaller house in their North Vancouver community after two of their three children left for university.

They sold their five-bedroom house in May for $1.3 million, figuring they'd have no problem finding a smaller place in the area.

But then the market "went absolutely crazy," Whyte said Wednesday.

Every house they looked at suddenly jumped in price, with million-dollar homes needing extensive renovations to the tune of a few hundred thousand dollars.

"We priced ourselves right out of our neighbourhood," Whyte said. "I was in tears. I was ready to go down to the street and say, 'Honk if you have a house I can buy.'"

As a supporter of the #DontHave1Million campaign, made up of young professionals pressuring the government to tackle the housing affordability problem in a city where the average house price is over a million bucks, she even made a tongue-in-cheek sign reading, "Homeless, have $1 million dollars, can't find a home to buy."

"I don't want anyone to feel sorry for me. What I want people to understand is the ridiculousness of this," she said.

With their move-out date approaching on Saturday, her family wound up buying a house in August for just over $1 million.

It's much smaller, on an odd lot, is leaking and needs extensive renos, she said.

"Nobody wanted it because it's a real eyesore," she said. "When I tell people what I have to fix, their jaws drop."

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Migrants gather outside the closed Eastern Railway Station in Budapest, Hungary, Wednesday, after they were not allowed to board trains bound for Germany. ZOLTAN MATHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tensions boil over in Europe

HUNGARY

Migrants face pushback as right-wing protests flare

Hundreds of frustrated migrants demanding passage to Germany jostled with riot police beside Budapest's main international train station Wednesday as Hungary spent a second day trying to keep thousands of asylum seekers from spilling deeper into Europe.

Scores of officers pushed back the crowd, which shouted in Arabic and English to be permitted to march around the Keleti train station, which has become the latest focal point for European tensions over an unrelenting flow of migrants from the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

Passions also flared on Hungary's border with Serbia as right-wing nationalist protesters marched to the location where migrants use a train track to walk into the country. Police formed protective circles around frightened migrants as the demonstrators from the hard-line Jobbik party screamed abuse at them.

The 28-nation European Union has been at odds for months on how to deal with the influx of more than 332,000 migrants this year. Such front-line nations as Greece, Italy and Hungary have pleaded for more help, while Germany, which is expecting to receive an EU-leading 800,000 asylum seekers this year, has appealed for EU partners to bear more of the load.

"We have to reinstate law and order at the borders of the European Union, including the border with Serbia," Hungarian government spokesman Zoltan Kovacs said. "Without re-establishing law and order, it will be impossible to handle the influx of migrants."

He said Hungary's prime minister, Viktor Orbán, will take a "clear and obvious message" to a meeting Thursday with EU chiefs in Brussels about migrants.

On Hungary's border with Serbia, some 300 extremists led by Jobbik party leaders waved Hungarian and party flags as they marched to the border crossing and shouted at the frightened migrants — many of whom had just completed a daylong hike along the rail line — to go back where they came from.

Elsewhere on the migrants' long route into Europe, 13 people died when two small boats ferrying them from Turkey to the Greek island of Kos capsized. Turkish media said 12 drowned, including a woman and three children, while another person died later in a hospital.

The Greek coast guard also recovered the body of a man south of the island of Kalolimnos. It wasn't clear whether that body was connected to the capsized Turkish boats about 22 kilometres (14 miles) to the northeast.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCIENCE

Earth has 3 trillion trees: Study

More than three trillion trees now grow on Earth, seven times more than scientists previously thought. But it's also trillions fewer than there used to be, a new study concludes.

A United Nations-affiliated youth group had a goal of planting one billion trees and Yale forestry researcher Thomas Crowther was asked if planting that many trees would do anything to help combat human-made climate change. Trees capture and store heat-trapping carbon dioxide.

Crowther said first he had to figure out how many trees are on Earth and that number was far more than anyone expected: 3.04 trillion trees, according to a study published Wednesday in the journal Nature.

The previous estimate was 400 billion trees and that rough count was based on satellite images peering down from space. Crowther and colleagues used 429,775 ground-based measurements along with satellite measurements and computer models to get a more accurate figure.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Children a drain on mom and dad

SAVINGS

Poll discovers marked rise in trend toward living at home

A new poll suggests adult children are draining their parents' retirement nest eggs.

The CIBC survey has found that two-thirds of Canadian parents polled say they're feeling the financial impact of supporting their adult children.

Almost half of them said supporting their adult kids is hampering their ability to save for themselves, while 20 per cent say it has actually delayed their retirement. One in four parents said they spend more than $500 a month to cover their adult kids' rent, groceries and other bills.

The most recent data released by Statistics Canada in 2011 showed that 42.3 per cent of adults aged 20-29 lived at their parental home, "either because they never left it or because they returned home after living elsewhere."

Hannah Frazer returned to the nest after graduating to live with her parents, Mary Lou and Donald, in order to save money. COURTESY HANNAH FRAZER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

In 2006, 42.5 per cent of young adults lived at home, a marked increase from previous decades (32.1 per cent in 1991 and 26.9 per cent in 1981).

Monica Boyd, a sociology professor at the University of Toronto who researches the reasons young adults live with their parents, said the rising rate is linked to several factors, including school attendance, postponement of marriage ages and family structures.

THE CANADIAN PRESS, WITH FILES FROM JILLIAN KESTLER-D'AMOURS

MCDONALD'S

Canada missing out on all-day breakfast

McDonald's Canada has bad news for those looking to get their Egg McMuffin fix past 11 a.m. Spokeswoman Lisa Hutniak said the company has no plans to offer an all-day breakfast despite the brand's announcement that its American restaurants will introduce the option Oct. 6.

Hutniak said the company is keeping a close eye on the nationwide experiment by the Americans and are always looking to meet the needs and wants of their customers.

Twitter users were quick to decry the disparity.

"Y'all are monsters," tweeted @MsLolaOh. A user from Scarborough, @60mg-Maija, summarized their reaction in two words: "Thug tears."

Some even made it an election issue, calling on the leaders of all three parties to address the disparity.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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CHANTAL HÉBERT: ON THE NDP'S BIG DREAMS

"Thomas Mulcair has been making some hefty promises ... he has yet to demonstrate how a New Democrat government would walk its election talk.

From a national childcare program to balanced budgets, the abolition of the Senate and the repeal of the Clarity Act, NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair has been making some hefty promises on the way to a leading position in voting intentions.

But five weeks into the campaign, he has yet to demonstrate how a New Democrat government would walk its election talk on any of the above.

A national childcare program: The NDP is promising to create one million new childcare spaces over two mandates. The result would be a comprehensive $15-a-day program along the lines of the Quebec system.

But it will not get off the ground unless the provinces agree to pay 40 per cent of the tab. For its part, Ontario has signalled that it would want the money it already spends on childcare to be considered part of its share of the bill.

Quebec, whose government has been trying to rein in its childcare costs, would similarly expect to be compensated for its efforts to date.

Looking at the lay of the land in Canada's biggest provinces, getting to one million new spaces could either take more than eight years or call for significantly more federal dollars.

A balanced budget: When the Liberals, under Paul Martin, belatedly turned their minds to a national childcare initiative in 2004, the federal government was awash in money. Instead of overflowing coffers, an incoming NDP government would find bare cupboards.

The federal fiscal outlook has deteriorated along with Canada's economy. Over their decade in power, the Conservatives have put billions of dollars of recurring tax cuts on the books and, in the process, curtailed the federal capacity to invest in new national programs.

The NDP is planning to maintain most of those cuts — notably a 2-point decrease in the GST; income-splitting for seniors and the recently enhanced child benefit, as well as spend more on a variety of social programs.

The New Democrats will publish a fully costed platform before Sept. 17 — the day of the Globe and Mail-sponsored leaders debate on the economy. Expect skeptics to go through it with a fine-tooth comb.

The abolition of the Senate: Quebec and Ontario — among other provinces — oppose this signature NDP promise. Moreover, Quebec will insist on having its longstanding constitutional demands addressed before it entertains any other reforms.

Some New Democrats have mused about holding a national referendum to force the provinces' hand on the issue. Good luck with that! Unless a majority votes yes to abolition in every province, the result will lead only to the entrenchment of the opposition of some premiers.

Even if one were to assume that the arrival in power of the NDP would magically be followed by provincial agreement to both clear the Quebec's constitutional slate and unanimously abolish the upper house, the amendments would still have to be voted in every legislature over a three-year period.

With zero representation in the Senate, how would an NDP government manage its legislative agenda over those years?

And then there is the promise — popular in Quebec but controversial in the rest of Canada — to repeal the Clarity Act and change the rules that would guide the federal government in the event of another referendum on Quebec's future. An NDP government would negotiate the province's secession on the basis of a simple pro-independence majority.

In the absence of Liberal or Conservative support, the New Democrats would have to lead a majority government to effect that change. But majority or not, expect that proposal to be dead on arrival in a non-NDP Senate.

Mulcair is not the first federal leader to vouch to pull policy rabbits out of a prime ministerial hat.

With zero representation in the Senate, how would an NDP government manage its legislative agenda?

In 1993, Jean Chrétien promised to make the GST disappear, to finance a national childcare program out of thin fiscal air, and to re-negotiate NAFTA, the free-trade agreement between the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

As in the case of the NDP, today there were plenty of unanswered questions as to how a Liberal government would square the circle of its promises. That did not prevent Chrétien from winning a majority victory and from jettisoning his cumbersome commitments at the first politically astute opportunity.

Chantal Hébert is a national affairs writer. Her column appears in Metro every Thursday.

THE MICROTREND: A new fashion blooming

A strange craze that germinated in Chengdu, in southwestern China, is spreading like a weed all over the country and beyond. Men, women and children are wearing the "bean sprout hairpin," a hair clip that makes them look like they have a plant growing out of their heads. The barrettes, which come in daisy and rose varieties and cost about a dollar, are a sensation on social media, and it may only be a matter of time before they sprout up on streets on this side of the pond.

SOURCE: WALL STREET JOURNAL
PHOTO:AM730.COM.HK

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD

metroview

One-year abortion-forgiveness offer? I'll wait for real change

The Pope has called for "a widening of the church's mercy" when it comes to women who've had abortions.

That should sound like good news to a Trudeau-esque pro-choice Catholic like me.

But instead it adds another level of confusion to what is already an incredibly nuanced church teaching.

I don't doubt Francis' sympathy for women facing the "agonizing and painful decision" to have an abortion. The move might even help some women, because it directs all priests to forgive what is an excommunicable offence.

But the offer only applies during the Holy Year of Mercy, beginning in December. It's not clear what happens to women who miss that window.

"Pope Francis likes to have this merciful tone," Kate McGee told me. "Well, I think it's totally backfired, because now all sorts of people are going, 'What? What are you talking about?' One of my conservative friends was saying, 'Why is the Pope saying this? We already offer up absolution for any sin.'"

McGee is a young psychotherapist with the Jesuit college at the University of Toronto — a self-described feminist Catholic.

Church law already varies; depending on whether you knew abortion was excommunicable, whether you were forced, if you were under 16.

Priests in North America have already agreed to ceremonially absolve women who ask for forgiveness after an abortion. What's new is that Francis is widening the practice to other parts of the world, where that power lies with the bishop.

The announcement is about tone, not substance, McGee noted. Abortion remains a grave sin in the church's eyes.

"I've never understood why abortion would be excommunicable, but not murder," McGee added. "If you're going to equate them ..."

I cut her off, blurting out, "I didn't realize that!" and thinking: That sounds ridiculous.

The Pope could correct the inconsistency and change law, though "there's no evidence he's going to," McGee said.

This is more like a limited-time Year of Mercy sale.

McGee has been told it's good the church changes slowly. That way, it can bring with it the great swath of cultures woven into it.

I've never been very patient.

Instead of muddying the waters of an already polarizing issue, I wish the Pope would keep focused on the kinds of root causes that could greatly diminish the demand for abortions, especially poverty, and more ironically for a patriarchal organization, sexism.

I'm sure some women will accept the offer of mercy, but I'm holding out for change.

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Wikipedia has blocked 381 accounts used by people paid to create or tweak entries

Minor anxiety over major book

PATRICK DEWITT

Man behind The Sisters Brothers felt vulnerable with this followup

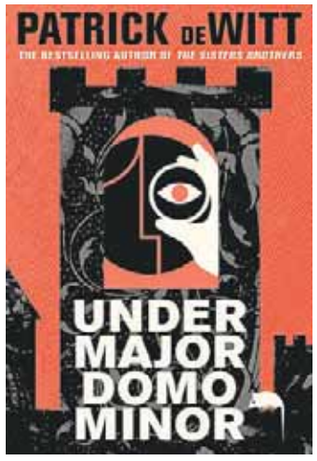
BOOKWORM
Sue Carter

There was a six-month phase during the three years that it took Patrick deWitt to write his new novel, Undermajordomo Minor, when he faced daily anxieties over the followup to his award-sweeping black Western comedy, The Sisters Brothers. "It was really crippling," he says.

The worries returned later as advance copies of the book, published by House of Anansi Press, began to circulate, and he awaited the first reviews.

"I was feeling very vulnerable at the time. You want the book to be judged on its own, but ultimately I realized I was powerless," he says.

In the end, the Canadian-born writer, who now resides in Portland, Ore., decided that what matters most is his own feelings about the work.



"Was this the best I could do at that time? I can't worry about the rest too much."

DeWitt's past worries are understandable. Not only was his 2011 novel a critic and prize-jury favourite, it inspired a rare fanaticism in readers, and was optioned for film by actor John C. Reilly, who will co-star as one of the hitmen-for-hire siblings (the two also worked together on the film Terri, for which deWitt wrote the screenplay). Fans of The Sisters Brothers will rejoice at the return of deWitt's wry, funny dialogue and over-the-top, almost slapstick violence.

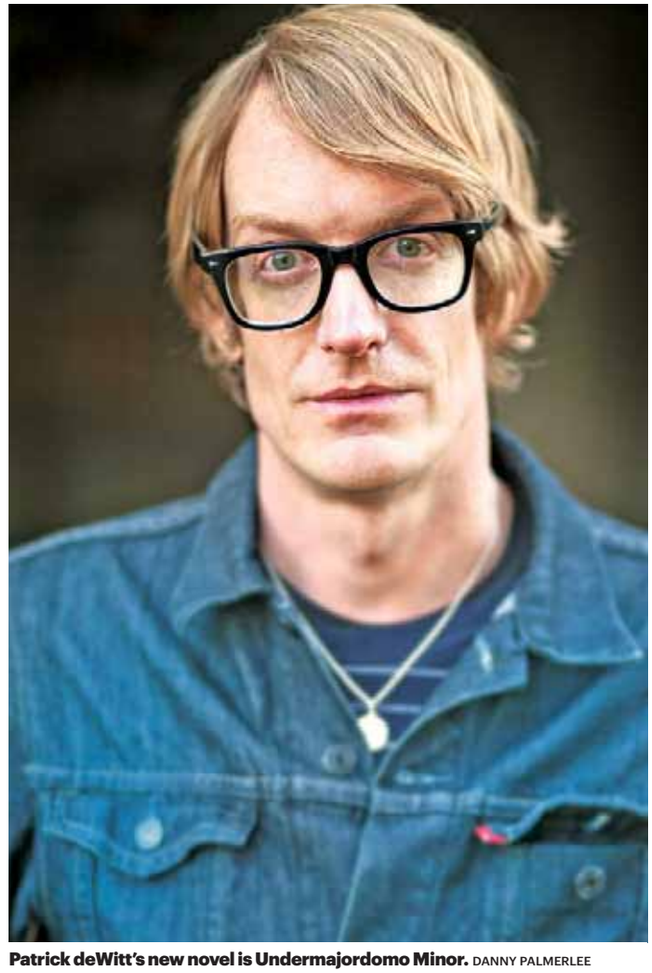
This time, the protagonist is a young, shiftless compulsive liar named Lucy Minor, who takes a position as a servant at the mysterious Castle Von Aux, owned by a baron whose raging bouts of insanity result in one of the most disgustingly visceral scenes involving a rat in recent memory. While Lucy encounters petty thieves, bloodthirsty soldiers with no apparent cause to fight for and a treacherous "Very Large Hole," the story is grounded in his pure love for Klara, a poor beauty from the village.

Prior to Undermajordomo Minor, deWitt was working on another manuscript, this time with a contemporary setting, which he abandoned out of boredom. Historical eras, he says, give him the freedom to "exercise baroque, ridiculous language. With an antique setting you can deal with anything difficult."

Unlike some historical authors (if you can technically call deWitt one), he doesn't get caught up in research or worrying about accuracy — Undermajor has no identifying time or geographic location.

"Authenticity and attention to detail hold very little interest for me," he says.

"It feels like homework, and I hated homework as a kid."



Patrick deWitt's new novel is Undermajordomo Minor. DANNY PALMERLEE

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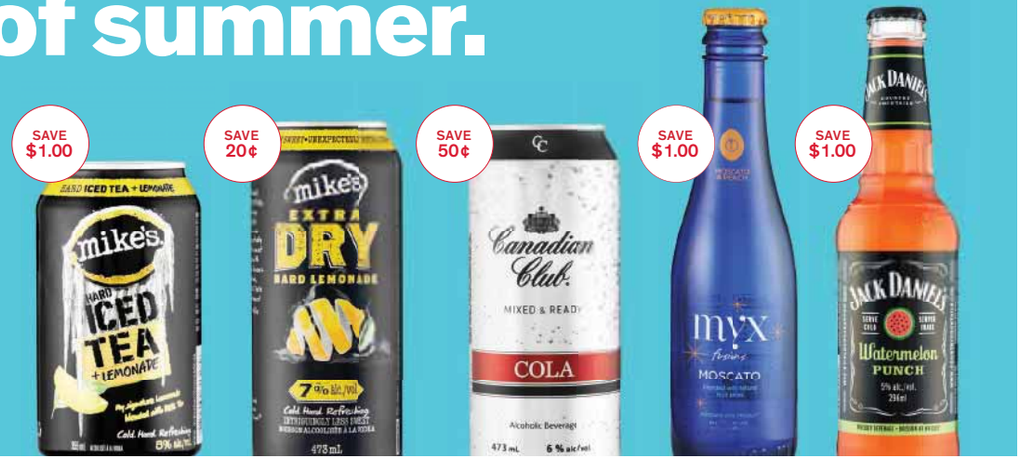

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STORYTELLING

100-year-old's memoir and teen star's first novel bookend new fall reading

Brian Selznick and Edwidge Danticat, authors of two of fall's most anticipated works for young people, both know something about living in multiple worlds.

Selznick has been travelling, in his mind, among movies, printed books and digital texts. He worked on drawings for The Marvels, a 600-page adventure across the centuries that alternates between text and illustrations, while adapting his novel Wonderstruck for a planned feature by Todd Haynes. He has also finally allowed his distinctively illustrated stories to be released as ebooks, and upon completing The Marvels thought of how he could convert it for digital readers.

"The challenge is always to make the story feel like it can only be told in the medium it appears," Selznick says. "When I'm creating a new story, it always begins as a book, but once it's finished, figuring out how to adapt it to other media is a fun challenge."

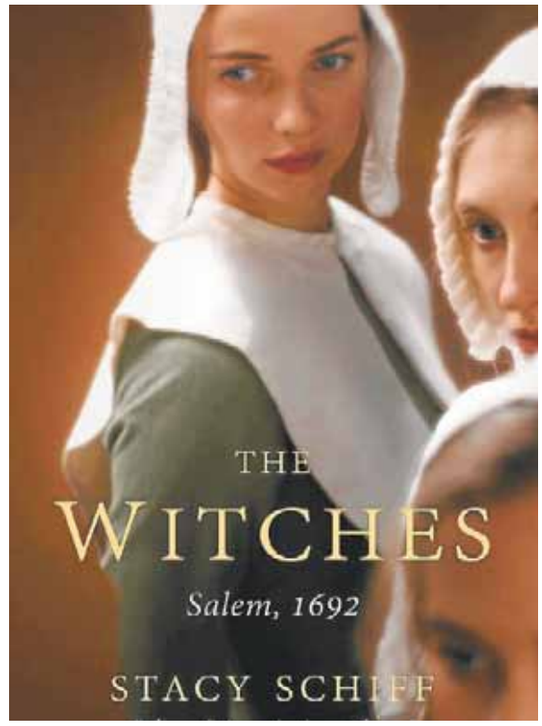
"In the end, storytelling is storytelling, and each medium has its own demands and opportunities unique to it."

Danticat's Untwine is narrated by the teen daughter of Haitian immigrants as she recovers from a serious car crash. Untwine was a switch in style for Danticat, best known for such adult works as the novel The Dew Breaker and the memoir Brother, I'm Dying, and a journey back to a younger self.

The next few months will feature books for all ages by authors of all ages — from a new Rookie Yearbook novel by teen star Tavi Gevinson to a memoir by the 100-year-old Pulitzer Prize winner Herman Wouk — with a few Nobel laureates in between.

Wouk, a published author for nearly 70 years, shares his rare perspective in Sailor and Fiddler: Reflections of a 100-Year-Old Author. A.E. Hotchner, 95, writes of his late friend Ernest Hemingway in Hemingway in Love. Stan Lee, 92, tells his story in words and illustrations in Amazing Fantastic Incredible: A Marvelous Memoir.

Punk and New Wave music are old enough that some of the leaders are writing memoirs, from Elvis Costello and Chrissie Hynde to Patti Smith and Carrie Brownstein.

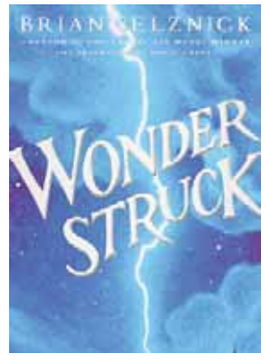


OF WITCHES AND THE WEB

'Slanderous news travels'

Stacy Schiff, whose books include the bestselling Cleopatra and the Pulitzer-winning Vera, looks back to the 17th-century witch trials in The Witches: Salem, 1692.

"The similarities between the oral culture of that time and the Internet are approximately 100 per cent," Schiff says. "Something is mentioned once and suddenly it's everywhere. It's amazing the way slanderous news travels. And what we say is indelible. That's what happened in the 17th century. Witchcraft accusations wouldn't go away."



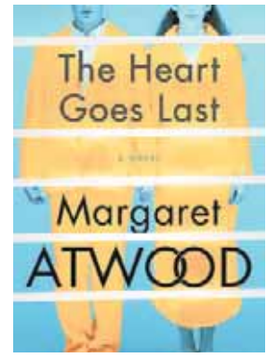
Actors also are looking back. Mindy Kaling offers the latest on her life in Why Not Me? Mary-Louise Parker addresses friends, family members, lovers and other men in Dear Mr. You. Jesse Eisenberg's humour pieces, many of which ran in The New Yorker, are collected in Bream Gives Me Hiccups.

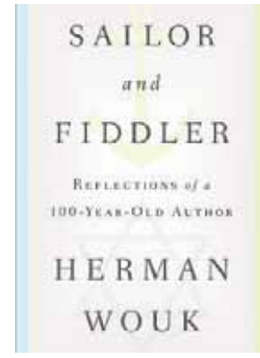
The fall is publishing's prime showcase for literary fiction, with novels by Jonathan Franzen, David Mitchell and Elena Ferrante, along with works from Nobel laureates Patrick Modiano, Orhan Pamuk and Kenzaburo Oe.

David Lagercrantz continues the late Stieg Larsson's Millennium series with The Girl in the Spider's Web and Anthony Horowitz has written a new James Bond novel, Trigger Mortis. J.K. Rowling resumes her alternate life as crime writer Robert Galbraith with Career of Evil. George RR Martin explores the back story of Westeros in A Knight of the Seven Kingdoms. Margaret Atwood, author of such dystopian novels as The Handmaid's Tale, conjures more nightmares in The Heart Goes Last.

"It's getting easier (to create dystopias)," said Atwood, whose new book features a community of rotating prison inmates. "You're just putting together a mosaic of what's around you, putting together things that are already happening somewhere or have happened and seeing what this mix produces."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS





Continuing Education

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Unleash Your Potential

Lesley-Anne Scorgie, best-selling author and entrepreneur, discusses why you should invest in a higher education.

W. Brett Wilson on lifelong learning.

p10

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Set Yourself Apart
Developing new skills to gain a competitive edge in the job market.
p9

Online Flexibility
Shaquille O'Neal shares how online learning allowed him to earn an MBA while managing his career.
p11

Meet leading universities and business schools from around the world at a city near you this September, at the QS World Grad School Tour and QS World MBA Tour — and apply for exclusive scholarships. Find out more and secure a place at TopUniversities.com/Canada and TopMba.com/Canada.

How Can Grad School Boost Your Career Prospects?

By Sabrina Collier, Top Universities

There are many reasons to consider pursuing a postgraduate degree after finishing your undergraduate studies. You may be primarily motivated by a desire to delve deeper into your subject, but did you know just how much grad school can boost your career prospects and professional development?

If you're aspiring to a career in science or technology, a postgraduate degree may be a set requirement, and is therefore a no-brainer. However, students of all disciplines can benefit from exploring a postgraduate degree. For budding business experts, an MBA might be the next step to career success – not to mention that MBA graduates earn over $150, 000 on average, according to the Association of MBAs (AMBA). Other postgraduates will also find it easier to secure a higher ranked and paid position, making the additional costs of grad school worthwhile.

Photo: Top Universities

Visit a QS World Grad School Tour or World MBA Tour this September to find out how you can further your education.

Explore opportunities abroad

To boost the ROI on your degree, consider attending grad school overseas. Studying abroad allows you to explore an exciting new setting, broadening your horizons and supporting intensive personal development. Graduates who have studied abroad are in increasingly high demand, as employers seek out international experience and related aptitudes. This is reflected in a recent study showing that five years after graduation, the unemployment rate of Erasmus exchange students is 23 percent lower than the European average, with 92 percent of employers saying they value related transversal skills such as problem-solving, openness to new challenges and tolerance.

Profiting from a PhD

There are also strong benefits to studying a PhD – a chance to become a member of the academic community and prepare for a range of research-focused roles. Research by Bernard H. Casey at the University of Warwick indicates that, across all subjects, PhDs provide an earnings premium of 26 percent, and there are also significant benefits to society.

Many postgraduate programs invest in state-of-the-art technology, allowing students to gain experience in facilities and labs inspired by real workspaces. George Brown College, for example, provides a Simulation Centre, where health sciences students learn in simulated hospital settings. Postgraduate study also offers many opportunities for personal development, and the opportunity to form lasting connections with talented and ambitious peers, within your specialization and beyond.

Financing your postgraduate studies

And if you're worried about the costs, remember there are lots of scholarships and other funding opportunities available, from governments, universities and independent providers. Indeed, scholarships are typically more widely available at graduate level, for both domestic and international studies. ■

In association with QS World MBA Tour & QS World Grad School Tour

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INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE

Ask the Experts

Dr. Lorraine Carter
Director of Continuing Education,
McMaster University

Why should someone who is already in an established career consider investing in continuing their education?

The concept of a single career over a working life is part of the past. Instead, in an unprecedented way, early and mid-career professionals must be prepared to re-invent themselves in uniquely competitive and emerging markets. However, if you proactively reflect your next steps and acquire new knowledge and skills, the journey can be an exciting rather than a difficult one.

For someone juggling work and family life, are online and continuing education programs manageable?

With strong time management and support from home and school, continuing education is absolutely manageable.

Well-designed online courses enable students to be successful. As well, clarity in the course and a reasonable workload are essential. A good instructor will also make a world of difference for students. Continuing education programs come in many shapes and formats. This variety and flexibility are all about meeting the needs of the working adult learner.

What do you think the future holds for online and continuing education?

The future has never been brighter for online and continuing education. We have reached the point where we know that online education is here to stay. There is nothing faddish about it. Instead, now teachers, researchers, learning designers, and others are working hard to ensure that online education is a consistently positive option. On another front, the globalization benefits of online education are stunning. We can now connect with and learn from people around the world, and be richer and better informed because of these relationships.

Marilyn Carkner, MEd
Director, Credit Programming &
Learner Services,
UNB College of Extended Learning

Once you have attained a certain professional level, there is always room to learn something more. We live in an environment of constant change, with new information and skills quickly replacing the old. Working in highly competitive markets with the need for more diverse and ever-changing skills requires updating and refining of the learner's current knowledge, skills and abilities. Participating in continuing education opportunities can refresh or revive your motivation and enthusiasm. Sometimes people learn new ways of doing things that they hadn't previously considered.

Yes, they are manageable, and planning is key. Knowing the program expectations up front and planning accordingly will go a long way to ensuring your success.

Continuing education programs are often designed with the busy learner in mind, so flexibility is built into programs like UNB's degree completion program, the Bachelor of Integrated Studies (BIS). For learners already busy with work and family life, the program's core requirements are offered online, so they can work on courses from anywhere, anytime, whatever works for them!

There continues to be strong demand for flexible continuing education options and institutions are developing programs to meet that demand. The market will continue to demand learning opportunities in accessible formats that allow for meaningful engagement. Things like strong course design, use of technology, expert teaching and support frameworks will get the attention of learners and meet their needs. Online and continuing education providers will need to be aware of market trends and be prepared to keep up.

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INSIGHT

MBA Programs: Opening Doors to All Kinds of Possibilities

There's no two ways about it — Master of Business Administration (MBA) programs are demanding and rigorous, but if you are serious about your career, the payoff is worth it. Not only will the degree give you credibility, you can walk away with solid business knowledge, leadership skills and critical insights as well as strong professional networks.

Generally geared to those with some professional or managerial experience under their belt, MBA programs provide a platform for students to advance their careers (and their income or to launch careers in new directions. "Students grow personally and professionally and they start to see things differently, opening doors to all kinds of possibilities," says Lois Fearon, Director of the School of Business at Royal Roads University (RRU) in Victoria. "They develop a way of thinking that is relevant to any context."

In addition, MBA programs tend to be hands-on, meaning that students get to reflect upon and analyze real-life business problems and come up with alternate plans of action. In some cases, project work actually touches upon challenges students face in their workplace, allowing them to immediately apply the concepts they learn to their organization.

A combination of residencies and online courses allows students to balance a full-time career and school. Photo: Royal Roads University

Learn while you earn

With more than 40 universities offering MBA degrees in Canada, schools are looking to differentiate their programs, some offering courses with small class size or in industry-specific areas. At RRU, for instance, you can complete an MBA in Executive Management or in one of three specializations, including International Business — Asia Pacific Trade and Investment. Royal Roads also allows students to select electives in sustainability, innovation or coaching for an individualized program that aligns with their career goals.

A key feature of the RRU program is its combination of residencies and online learning, allowing students to work full-time without suffering an income loss or foregoing potential advancement opportunities. Students come to campus for two three-week residencies, one at the start of the program and one 18 months later at the end. In between, students complete online courses.

MBA programs tend to attract leaders from various industries, so the connections you create while studying can form a powerful network of support you can turn to during your program and beyond. At Royal Roads, a cohort learning model is used in which set groups of people work together, sharing personal experiences and diverse perspectives. "During the first residency, students are generally awestruck by the beauty of our campus but also with the strength of the cohort-learning model," says Fearon. "Students work together in teams from day one and the bonds they build are quite incredible."

RRU students typically have significant managerial experience, something that enriches classroom discussions, says Fearon, who adds that the program attracts a number of students from outside the traditional business world, such as those working in arts and culture, government or health care. In addition, all faculty members have strong industry experience, "giving them a real appreciation of the reality of organizational complexities."

Taking an MBA program requires dedication, perseverance and sacrifice — especially if you work full-time at the same time – but if you have the discipline, the motivation and the smarts, signing up could be one of the most brilliant moves in your life. ■

By Katherine O'Brien

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INSIGHT

Expanding Your Education and Career Horizons

By Bronwen Keyes-Bevan

Jim Jessop
Ontario Fire Marshal,
Chief of Emergency Management

"My father was a firefighter in downtown Toronto for 28 years," says Jim Jessop. "I grew up with the fire service. There was never a doubt in my mind of what I was going to be."

Like his father, Jessop became a firefighter in Toronto and spent just under five years working hard and protecting the city's inhabitants. In 2001, he made the difficult decision to move from firefighting in Toronto to fire prevention in Niagara Falls. It was here that Jessop met Pat Burke, Ontario Fire Marshal until 2010, who would become a mentor to Jessop.

"Burke encouraged all staff, myself included, to take as much training and professional development as possible, to get experience, exposure and education," says Jessop who earned a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Western University and a Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Brock University's Goodman School of Business. "He encouraged us to take risks, to not be afraid to fail and to challenge ourselves."

Today, Jessop is the Fire Marshal and Chief of Emergency Management in Ontario.

The struggle to build a career

With the Canadian job market still smarting from the oil slump, a great deal of Canadians are struggling to find employment while many others are finding it increasingly difficult to progress in their careers.

Continuing education is an excellent option for those looking to improve their career prospects, boost their earnings and add competencies to their professional toolboxes.

Completing a graduate school program also provides an excellent way to add a practical application to an academic or generalized undergraduate degree, earn a credential or retool for a job change.

A positive-sum game

Research consistently finds that higher education is a positive sum game. Those who invest in higher learning progress more quickly in their careers and increase their income earning ability.

It is not just rapid career growth and inflated income earning ability that continuing education can equip you with.

"What graduate school taught me was to think critically. It taught me to analyze, it taught me the importance of measuring and using data to make decisions as opposed to just doing things because that's the way they've always been done," says Jessop.

Continuing education also provides you with an excellent environment for building a network, interacting with professionals from different backgrounds and can be a hothouse for inter-professional learning. During his Master of Business Administration at the Goodman School of Business, Jessop found himself in class with engineers, lawyers and professionals from may other industries.

"That widened my perspective and taught me to look at things from different angles. It taught me to harness ideas from the private sector such as analyzing data and implementing performance metrics to better the public sector."

Continuing education provides an experience both personally enriching and financially rewarding.

"I certainly would not be in the position I am today had I not earned both my MPA and MBA. There's no question in my mind." ■

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NEWS

Taking Advantage of the Digital Age and Expanding Your Career Opportunities

By Randi Druzin

Apple executive Angela Ahrendts has said, "I grew up in a physical world, and I speak English. The next generation is growing up in a digital world and they speak social." Truer words were never spoken. The digital revolution is transforming every sphere of our lives, including education. Nowhere is that more apparent than at Dalhousie University in Halifax.

Its Centre for Advanced Management Education (CFAME) offers innovative graduate programs for working professionals hoping to advance their careers. Students aren't required to attend classes at the university campus; a bank employee in Vancouver could complete the course as easily as one of her colleagues in Toronto or Halifax.

This is because all three programs — Master of Business Administration (Financial Services) Master of Public Administration (Management) and Master of Information Management — are offered in a blended delivery format that minimizes in-classroom time and maximizes online learning.

Photo: Dalhousie University

The web-based programs make use of the latest digital technology, incorporating videos, webinars and other elements. In all, instructors and students use more than a dozen digital tools. Blogs, Twitter and other social media platforms play an integral role in these programs.

"We are in constant contact with our students now," says Martine Durier-Copp, Director of CFAME and a professor at the School of Public Administration at Dalhousie. "I can respond to students' questions whenever they are asked. Communication between instructors and students is not limited by time or space, and this makes for a deeper learning."

Students complete the work on their own time at a pace that suits them and, at designated times, gather for a class that is conducted online in real time.

Each program also includes a small in-person component. CFAME sends instructors to various cities to meet and teach their students who live there. So, for example, students who are based in Toronto will attend a class there one week while their Calgary-based classmates can attend the same class in their hometown the following week.

The response to this blended learning has been so positive that CFAME is adding another graduate program in the fall — Master of Business Administration (Leadership).

Martine says the centre's blended learning programs are constantly evolving and are shaped in part by research and the findings of Collaboration, E-Learning and Networks Lab (CELNET), a Dalhousie unit that researches e-learning and trains organizations in the areas of virtual collaboration, social media and communication.

"To keep up with the incredible pace of change in today's world, people have to educate themselves continually," says Durier-Copp. "Thankfully, technological advances have made it possible to get this education in a timely and convenient way." ■

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INSIGHT

Photo: Submitted

Lesley-Anne Scorgie

Investment in Education Means Higher Income Earning Ability

Mediaplanet spoke to best-selling author and personal finance consultant Lesley-Anne Scorgie, about the secret to her success.

Born in Toronto and raised in Calgary, Scorgie bought her first Canada Savings Bond at age ten and, by her mid-teens, was investing the majority of her earnings in mutual funds and stocks. This early interest in finance and a great deal of hard work has led to an impressive career.

To date, Scorgie is the bestselling-author of three books on financial literacy, writes a regular column for Metro News, is the Founder of MeVest, Founder and President of Get Rich By Inc., and has made a number of TV appearances on shows such as *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and *The Marilyn Denis Show*.

3 REASONS TO INVEST IN AN MBA

Expand your network
Small classrooms and group projects allow you to meet successful business leaders from various industries and develop important relationships that can serve you well during your career.

Team building
Most MBA programs have group projects which teach you how to successfully collaborate ideas and develop interpersonal skills that can be applied in the workforce.

Becoming an entrepreneur
An MBA can teach you the skills you need to get started on the business idea you have always wanted to create, you can learn anything from how to write a business plan, to launching an IPO.

Despite her flourishing career and growing reputation, Scorgie saw the value in returning to school and continuing her education and, in 2012, earned an MBA from Queen's University.

A tough job market for Canadians

For the Canadian job-seeker, it is a tough market out there. Although there have been signs of improvement, many young people are struggling to find any employment at all, while mid-career professionals are finding it increasingly difficult to progress to the next stage of their career.

How can individuals set themselves up for success in the current climate? In today's tough job market, continuing education can enhance and expand an individual's skill set, boost career prospects and make them a more desirable employee.

"Continuing education demonstrates commitment to both learning and professional development, which are attributes that many employers seek," says Scorgie .

Your network is the key to building your career

It's no secret that the healthier your professional network is the quicker your career can advance. "Your network is a system that speaks for you and can help shape your career," says Scorgie. "When you have a network that is strong, coordinated and supportive, it's incredibly powerful."

Meeting contacts and forging relationships in an educational environment is a sure-fire way to build a strong network.

"The real purpose of having and contributing to a network is that you can rely on it when you need it," says Scorgie. Continuing education is one way that individuals can equip themselves with a burgeoning professional network.

An investment in your future

Continuing education is an investment. While some individuals may have reservations about obtaining debt, data shows that those who invest in education in the short-term, earn more in the long-term.

"The statistics are very clear that those who invest in practical forms of education always have a much higher income earning ability than those who do not," says Scorgie.

"Income earning ability is anywhere from one and a half to three times higher for those who invest in their education than for those who choose not to." ■

By Bronwen Keyes-Bevan

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Nadia Esmail learning Portuguese to further her skill set. Photo: George Brown College

How Continuing Education Gives Workers the Competitive Edge

The current job market in Canada is cutthroat. While large urban areas such as Toronto and Vancouver have always attracted swathes of highly educated people from across the country in search of employment, the recent downturn in the Canadian economy has only served to increase the ferocity of the job market.

Many people are contemplating the future of their careers. With full-time, permanent positions on a downward slope and an overall reduction in available positions there is a pervading sense of insecurity in many industries, leading many Canadians to question how they can equip themselves to weather this period of uncertainty.

Nadia Esmail, a twenty-nine-year-old flight attendant based in Toronto, recently enrolled in a night class at George Brown College. She is studying Portuguese and aims to make it the fourth language in which she is fluent. She had learned French from a young age, studied Spanish in high school and completed an undergraduate degree in translating from the University of Ottawa with a minor in Spanish.

In a shrewd move, Esmail has harnessed her passion for learning languages to improve her career as a flight attendant and build on her skill set.

"This kind of skill is coveted in flight attending," she explains. "We have people called 'language-qualified.' They hired me for my Spanish, and I recently added myself to the Portuguese list. This makes me the 'language-qualified' person onboard. I will be responsible for making the announcements in Portuguese or even helping a Portuguese passenger who doesn't speak English fill out landing documents, among other things."

> "Augmenting one's current skill set with continuing education **can make an employee indispensable in their current role**..."

View from the top

Augmenting one's current skill set with continuing education can make an employee indispensable in their current role, and more attractive to a potential employer in a future role or it can equip someone for an entire career change. Esmail adds, "I become the Portuguese speaker on board, and that is beneficial for me schedule-wise and job-wise."

Courses such as the class that Esmail takes are plentiful at George Brown College in areas of interest that span the full spectrum of industries. Continuing education courses are extremely flexible and are built to fit around an individual's work schedule.

"The class schedule was convenient for me," says Esmail. "I didn't want something that occurred several days a week because that would interrupt my flying. It's easy for me to take these courses while I'm still working."

Research shows, time and time again, that those who invest in continuing education increase their job opportunities, boost their income earning ability and expand their professional network.

As soon as Esmail has mastered Portuguese she plans to start learning a fifth language: she will enroll in a continuing education course to learn American Sign Language. ■

By Bronwen Keyes-Bevan

NEWS

Set Yourself Apart in a Tough Job Market

In a declining job market, continuing education could be the key to safeguarding your career.

The huge drop in oil prices has had a profound effect on the economy. Canada is in recession with growth predictions for the final two quarters of 2015 tepid at best. There are 160,000 more unemployed Canadians than there was a decade ago and job quality is at a 25-year low. The economy is slowing down and many Canadians are wondering about the security of their jobs.

During periods of slow economic growth, the professional landscape can be a daunting place for job seekers. As there are fewer jobs available with evermore applicants vying for a position. The amount of full-time positions keeps shrinking and a job for life seems to be a thing of the past. Many hopeful job applicants do not know how to give themselves an edge over other candidates.

"A lot of people are competing for the same positions," says Kelly Ross, subject matter expert for development of courses within the Faculty of Continuing and Professional Studies at Sheridan College and Founder and Managing Director at TPS Tax and Accounting. "They've got to try and set themselves apart so they're looking for any way they can do that."

Gaining the edge

One of the best ways an individual can set themselves apart from their contemporaries is to grow their professional skill set by gaining further qualifications. Enrolling in a continuing education program can safeguard a career during recession. Continuing education programs benefit both businesses and workers. Businesses encourage employees to continue their education in order to sustain a highly skilled and specialized workforce, while employees benefit from the increased likelihood of a promotion and higher income earning ability.

Whether an individual enrolls in a continuing education program to retrain, or change their industry, or increase their skill set in their field, continuing education courses are flexible and can fit around any work schedule.

Growing your professional skills will set you apart. Photo: Sheridan College

"There are many different types of courses offered," says Ross. "There's the full-time day-time courses but there's also part-time, online and blended courses. Blended is a combination of online and in-class sessions, which provides flexibility without losing the in-person interaction to really grasp what they are learning. There are many different options out there that meet people's different needs."

Building a professional network

The importance of a professional network cannot be overstated. Statistics show that networking is the best way to land a new job and to acquire new business leads. It is in continuing education programs that individuals begin to grow these essential professional network.

"I see exchange of information between students all the time," says Ross. "These are people that can help you build your reputation and better your career later on."

Seeking further education is an excellent way to add a practical application to existing education, such as an undergraduate degree, ensuring that individuals are highly qualified and extremely employable workers.

Ross says, "Continuing education really brings together the academic aspects of education with real world, on-the-job experience. Sheridan College has raised the bar with the extent of learning within their new Accounting Practitioner Certificate program, which offers a blended platform with on-the-job simulation, using situation analysis, ERP systems, case studies, all while still learning the concepts and calculations within the traditional accounting courses." ■

By Bronwen Keyes-Bevan

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A LESSON IN LIFELONG LEARNING

Mediaplanet caught up with Canadian entrepreneur, philanthropist and three-season panelist on CBC's *Dragons' Den*, W. Brett Wilson, to ask him what role further education played in his success.

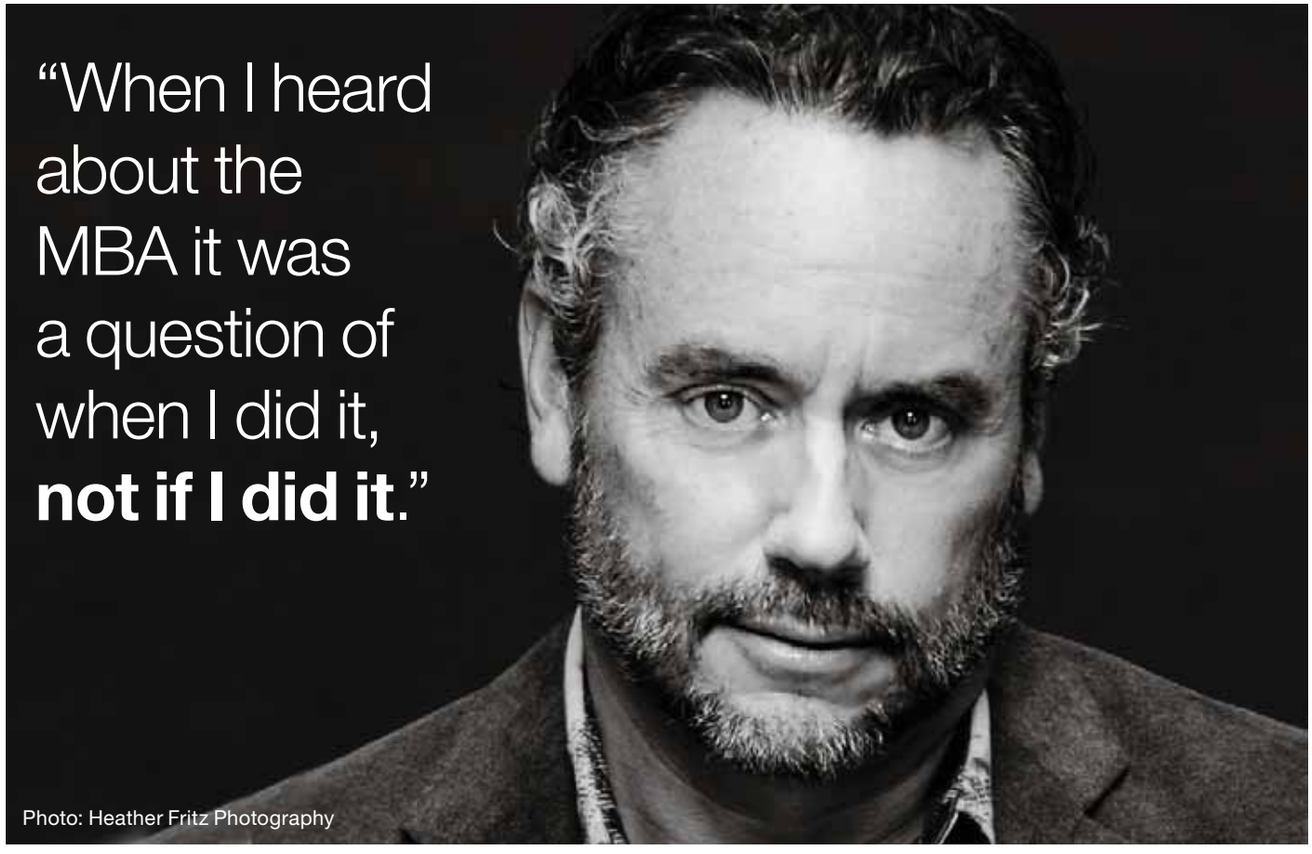

Photo: Heather Fritz Photography

Mediaplanet You have attended numerous universities and graduated with several degrees, why was it important for you to pursue a higher education?

W. Brett Wilson It was something that was ingrained in me as a child; that education was going to be invaluable in the short and long term. My mom was a social worker and my dad didn't finish high school. He was adamant that I would both finish high school and go to university, there was never a conversation about what I had to study but I can't remember ever having a conversation with my parents that didn't involve going to school.

MP You graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Saskatchewan, and returned to the University of Calgary's Haskayne School of Business to pursue an MBA. What drew you towards this new field of interest?

BW In a sense, business was my original field of interest. I was almost flipping a coin between studying engineering and business when I came out of high school, and I think my parents, given my strengths in the sciences, guided me a little bit.

During my first couple of months of university I learned about the MBA program, which would allow me to do business and engineering. When I heard about the MBA it was a question of when I did it, not if I did it.

MP While studying for your various degrees were you involved with other full-time commitments? If so, how were you able to cope with this hectic schedule?

BW When I was doing my undergrad I refereed hockey games, marked papers and drove taxis, and that's on top of summer jobs. My MBA was a part time program but I had decided to take it up every night of the week, so I was not in a position to do much more.

But I did do some things that were entrepreneurial: I purchased a couple of revenue properties that I redeveloped, largely with my own sweat equity and modest capital. It was a summer job that turned into more and it was the foundation of a business experience that proved invaluable to me as I continued to invest over time.

MP Entrepreneurship is something you strongly promote. What skills are important to launching and running your own business venture?

BW There are both skills and values. When I talk about the study of entrepreneurship, for me it's a lot about inspiring the way people think and act as opposed to the tools and the specifics of accounting or finance.

It's about the way of thinking. Some people say that entrepreneurs are risk takers but I would argue that they're not risk takers for the sake of taking risks, but rather they perceive risk differently and are maybe more risk tolerant. Maybe we (entrepreneurs) simply believe in ourselves in a way that brings the risk down to a point where it's manageable.

MP As one of Canada's leading entrepreneurs, how have a variety of educational experiences shaped your career path?

BW I can candidly say that when I was studying engineering I studied it to be an engineer and not an entrepreneur. As much as I had an idea of adding on, or bootstrapping on some business studies, I didn't have the vision that I would go out and start businesses, especially in the world of finance.

But the great thing about an engineering background is that it teaches you how to learn. It's complicated, and it requires new knowledge and an investment of time in learning the materials. One of the great things about it was learning how to learn, which then enables you to take on almost anything.

MP What advice would you give to those that are hesitant about taking the next step and returning to school once in an established career?

BW If someone's hesitant about going back to school because it's an engagement of time, I would say take an hour or two each week in the evenings to look at what's online in terms of tools and see what bites, see what inspires you.

When people come to me and say 'I've got $1,000 to start a business, what should I do with it?' I say, 'go back to school and study marketing!' ■

From NBA to MBA and Beyond

With online education, you can have the best of both worlds.

Shaquille O'Neal was able to earn his MBA online while still winning accolades on the court, managing a business empire, acting in film and TV, and doing everything else required of a mega-sports superstar.

Basketball isn't forever. But education last a lifetime. This is something Shaquille O'Neal understood before he became a basketball legend and arguably North America's most gregarious NBA personality. Way back in 1992, when he left Louisiana State University (LSU) to join the Orlando Magic, he made a promise to his mother that someday he would go back — and graduate. And he did, earning a bachelor's in business from LSU in 2000. That was just the beginning of his passion for education.

A world of possibilities

Online education has created a world of possibilities for busy people with hectic schedules like O'Neal. When he enrolled in the University of Phoenix's online MBA program, he juggled school with the NBA, celebrity endorsements, acting, music gigs, running his own clothing line and other typical business interests of a mega-superstar.

But education is one of O'Neal's core values and he was able to make time for what matters to him, thanks to the flexibility online education provides.

Online flexibility

"As a former NBA player, you're always traveling but with the options available, anyone can make time for school," O'Neal said.

While he was playing for the Los Angeles Lakers he attended classes at the University of Phoenix, West Los Angeles Campus, as well as doing online class work. After he was traded to the Miami Heat he continued the program online and graduated in 2005.

Education for hectic lives

"It's just something to have on my resume [for] when I go back into reality," he told Associated Press (AP) about the MBA. "Sports for me has always been, you know, fairy tale life. And this right here is real life. This right here means more."

He agrees that making online education accessible and engaging is important, "so that students are and remain interested in learning. Of course students will always have a better chance of learning the material if they enjoy class."

The MBA, he told AP, "solidifies that I'm a businessman."

Dr. O'Neal

O'Neal continued his education at Barry University in Miami, Florida. A year after he retired from the Boston Celtics in 2011, he received his doctorate in Education - Organizational Learning and Leadership.

Online and remote education made it more feasible. Besides attending classes on campus, he used satellite classrooms, video-conferencing and the online educational tool Blackboard.com.

This is for mom

In typical Shaq style, he hoisted his professor into the air at the graduation ceremony in 2012.

"This is for my mother, who always stressed the importance of education," O'Neal said. "I am proud to have achieved a doctoral degree and wish to thank my professors and Barry University for helping make this dream a reality. I'm smart enough to know that, even at my tender age, my pursuit of education is never finished." ■

By Kimberley Fehr

Photo: PR + Partners

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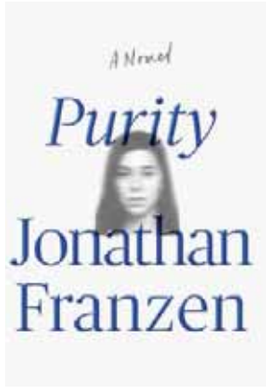
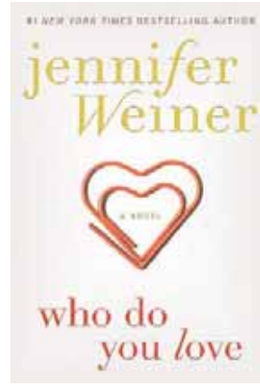
1 Purity



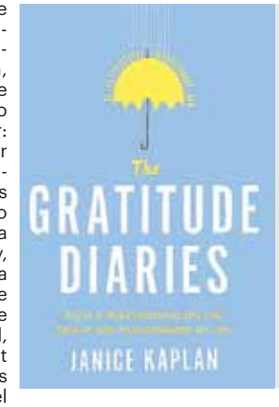
Pip Tyler resides in a dilapidated Oakland house with a handful of other squatters, owes $130,000 for an education she isn't using, and has a crippling relationship with her mother, who hides the identity of Pip's father. And so, when an invitation to join a mysterious secret-telling agency comes her way, Pip accepts that she might be able to discover the identity of her father while completing an internship. Pip has a lackadaisical charm that will grip readers from the start, and while at times Purity seems to be a compilation of disjointed stories, it gradually begins to fit together as Franzen masterfully connects the gritty dots.

2 Who Do You Love



If you're more in the mood for a little romance, it's hard to beat Jennifer Weiner's latest book, Who Do You Love. Rachel and Andy first meet as kids in the ER and throughout the next three decades, they keep running into each other. But being together wouldn't be easy. They come from two totally different worlds: Rachel grew up in an affluent Florida suburb in a seemingly perfect family while Andy grew up in a bad part of Philadelphia without much familial support. Watching how their two lives keep intersecting makes for an enjoyable read, but the book isn't fluff. Weiner tackles issues of race, class and the cost of love along the way.

3 The Gratitude Diaries



Searching for the secret to happiness? After extensive research, journalist Janice Kaplan claims to know the answer: gratitude. Her book The Gratitude Diaries gives advice on how to look at life in a more positive way, even if you aren't a glass-half-full type of person. If you're feeling depressed, you may think that if you had things in your life to feel grateful about that you wouldn't feel that way, but this book shows how to start looking on the bright side of things, no matter what.

RABBIT TALE

Penguin Random House nabs self-published picture book sensation

A Swedish psychologist's self-published picture book about a sleep-deprived rabbit has been acquired by Penguin Random House after becoming a word-of-mouth sensation.

A new edition of Carl-Johan Forssen Ehrlin's The Rabbit Who Wants To Fall Asleep will come out in paper in the U.S. on Oct. 2. Billed as a groundbreaking story that "gives suggestions to the child's unconscious mind to sleep," Ehrlin's book features such soporific helpers as Uncle Yawn and Sleepy Snail and has inspired an international debate over its effectiveness. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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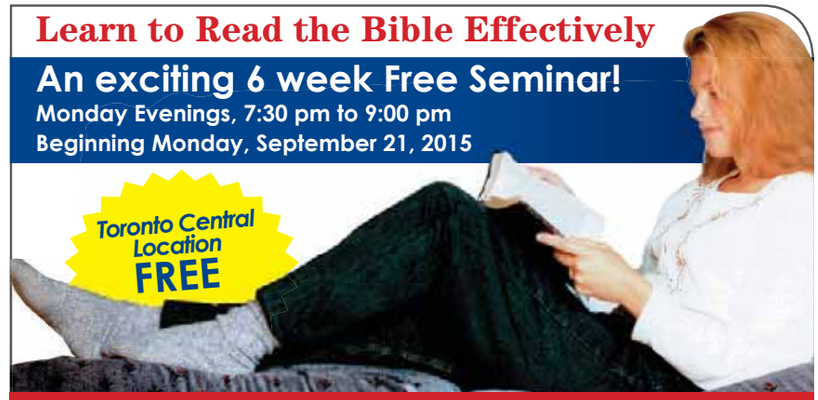

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Toronto home prices continue to soar to $1.04 million average price... Who Cares?

As home prices continue to rise in Toronto, this Canadian Real Estate Millionaire wants to share his new way for creating passive income through real estate with you. He'll even let you use his investment fund to help finance your income property!

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- How to sell US properties lightning fast–when no one else can.
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- How to earn big cheques even if you never sell your US investment!

Once you start using his system, the profits and passive income are amazing. It's simple to do, and it happens fast when you know his "insider" secrets. And you don't have to quit your job – but you may decide you want to!

- You don't need to open an expensive office.
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- You don't even need to travel to the US – but you may want to spend some time in the sun visiting your money-making properties!

And if you have ever wanted to explore real estate investing, but were concerned about the high prices and bloated GTA market, then you're going to love this FREE training!

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This event deserves your attention, and here are just a few more reasons why you need to attend:

- The plunging Canadian dollar makes for uncertain economic times...you need to take control of your life NOW.
  - — Average Canadian is $124,838 in debt with over $10,000 in credit card debt.
  - — Over 70% of Canadians believe they will have to work past the traditional retirement age.
- Sometimes it isn't what you know, it's who you know – and when you know this Multi-Millionaire you'll also have access to his network of people and funds that can help you succeed in real estate.
- You care about your family, and you want the best for them. This event will open your eyes to all you can really do for the people you love when you are finally the master of your financial success.
- His strategies are for everyone, even if you have absolutely no experience in buying or selling properties.

He has already shown hundreds of people just like you the ways to invest successfully in real estate – especially when the bottom is falling out of their home market – and his students' success just makes his success even greater. He's breaking his back to share his system because it works – and it can work for you.

This will be the best 2 hours of your life, but you have to register to get your seat at this event. Let this Multi-Millionaire give you his step-by-step system for real estate success. Claim your seat now and get a bonus gift, your **Million Dollar Investor Tool Kit for FREE! (A $187.00 value!!)**

You're asking – who is this Multi-Millionaire, and why does he want to help me? He can tell you himself...

If you're working hard these days without enough to show for it, I understand. I used to work hard myself – the 18-hour days – the 7-day weeks. I was a struggling musician – a concert pianist – trying to provide for my 4 kids in Montreal. I got married at 18 and had those 4 kids by the time I was 23, and I wound up a stay-at-home dad (not by choice!). But I never made real money until I discovered the secrets of investing successfully in US real estate – and then I was able to work a lot less.

Once my friends saw how well I was doing, they all wanted to get involved. It's funny – for 6 long struggling years, I had no friends, I was the crazy "black sheep" of the family who always needed to get a REAL job, and suddenly, they were all asking ME for advice!

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— Diana D., Toronto

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Get your nose up in Bill Murray's business

SCENT OF A MOVIE STAR

Scratch and sniff book reveals smells of actor's films

You've enjoyed his movies — now, wallow in the aromas of Bill Murray.

This delight is thanks to Cook Your Own Food — a Bill Murray Scratch and Sniff. It's a book that pays homage to the popular thespian, with 10 different smells inspired by his movies.

Simply scratch and get a noseful from Lost in Translation, Moonrise Kingdom, The Life Aquatic, or Groundhog Day.

Metro spoke to John Jarvis, the creator of the book (now available online from Sugoi Books) on the appeal of getting a whiff of Murray.

Scratch the book's scene of Bill Murray dining with Scarlett Johannson in Lost in Translation for a whiff of sushi. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

You'll have to pick up the book for the eau de Rushmore.

What inspired you to do this?
I am a huge lover of Bill Murray, first and foremost. He's an inspiration on screen: funny, sad, cerebral and thoughtful. He has such a deep personality which lends itself to be captured in art, and if you look online there is a lot of it. We wanted to get close to Bill, to get inside his films and have lots of fun doing it. What better fun than smelling his films? It's a super fun way of exploring Bill Murray, of seeing some of the best illustrators around the world pen some great art. Hopefully people will laugh with their friends — that's the point.

Do you think it will draw people closer to the actor, or push them away?
In the '70s, the idea of smelling in cinema was a giant thing. I suppose we thought it gave the posture a new dimension. Put us with the characters on the screen. I like the idea that we can take part in the books and art we buy, look at. I want everyone to take part and have fun. That experiential sense of play is taking off, lets do it!

How many pages are there? There will actually be 10 smells, so 24 pages in total. Each image gets a double spread. So, they are much bigger and expansive to let you really explore. Each spread will have a pink pad, scratch that and you get absorbed with a sweet smell of Bill.

What are the main aromas?
We've tried to keep the smells in context to the film. When Bill eats an apple in The Life Aquatic, we have an apple smell. When Bill eats sushi with Scarlet Johansson in Lost in Translation, we have a fishy smell. Of course, when his character Carl Spackler finds a Baby Ruth candy bar in the pool in Caddyshack — uh oh.

What's been the reaction to the book?
People seem to really love the idea and some people seem to not understand. I like to think it's such a unique and individual idea, its not going to be for everyone. METRO NEW YORK

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Substance over screen time

B MOVIE

Young Kevin Bacon would have turned down the role

Richard Crouse
For Metro Canada

Kevin Bacon stars as a menacing sheriff in Jon Watts-directed Cop Car, in theatres now. HANDOUT

> **When I first started becoming an actor I would judge a role by how many lines I had.**
> Kevin Bacon

In Cop Car, a B-movie thriller about two kids who steal a police vehicle for a joyride, Kevin Bacon plays Sheriff Kretzer, a bad cop short on dialogue but long on menace. It's an intense role but one the Footloose star would have turned down that once upon a time.

"When I first started becoming an actor I would judge a role by how many lines I had," he says. "Then, later on, by, 'Where's my big scene?' As time has gone on, I've really loved the idea of trying to use everything cinema has to offer in terms of helping you unfold the mystery of who somebody is.

"Sheriff Kretzer is one of those guys who, somehow, even though there is very little being said, I had an image for who he would be. Sometimes it just comes to me."

Now into an almost four-decade long career — Bacon's first professional acting gig came in 1978 on the soap opera Search for Tomorrow — he's come to understand why less is often more on screen.

"Look at something like Diner," he says. "I didn't want that part because the guy didn't say much. I didn't know or trust that who he was would come through (in the scene where) I was just sitting there watching the college bowl. People talk about that as being the moment where they totally got the guy, but on the page I didn't get that. I was too naive to understand that. In the course of my career I have started to realize that the camera sees so much more than we see in real life.

"It's not that it just shoots real life, it's that it goes deeper. You shoot somebody's eyes, do a close-up on somebody's eyes, and you see things that the human eye can't see. It actually reaches down into that person's soul so you're exposed to something that is deeper and more beautiful."

Bacon says he and director Jon Watts give audiences everything they need to "metaphorically jump in the car and come along" without over explaining the characters.

The result is a violent film that transcends its B-movie roots to become a story about loss of childhood innocence.

"I think it is a surprisingly moving and emotional film," he says. "I know my wife (actress Kyra Sedgwick) feels that way."

RISING STARS

Olivia Cooke shortlisted

Olivia Cooke of Me and Earl and the Dying Girl is being considered for roles in Steven Spielberg's Rian Johnson's upcoming films.

The British actress rose to prominence as part of the main cast for A&E's Bates Motel, a modernized prequel TV series for Hitchcock classic Psycho. Now her name is being dropped on two shortlists surfacing through TheWrap, one for Steven Spielberg's adaptation of the Ernest Cline sci-fi novel Ready Player One, the other for a new female lead role in Star Wars: Episode VIII.

Cooke and Maslany GETTY

Cooke is being mentioned alongside Canadian Tatiana Maslany (Orphan Black) for the Star Wars role. AFP

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Colbert fills the late-night slot

COMEDY

He can do the impossible, but can he do the possible?

Stephen Colbert is about to turn a corner in his career.

Having split from cheeky Comedy Central, he will now hold court at old-guard CBS. He will inherit the theatre, time slot and series title (though with an added The) owned for 22 years by David Letterman.

Little wonder that Colbert's disciples wait anxiously to see what The Late Show With Stephen Colbert will be like. How beholden will it be to late-night talk-show conventions stretching back six decades? Will it abandon Colbert's signature political edge?

If the early guest lineups offer any clue, he'll offer a rich blend of talk: Republican presidential hopeful Jeb Bush and Vice-President Joe Biden will appear the first week, along with entrepreneurs Elon Musk (SpaceX and Tesla Motors) and Travis Kalanick (Uber), plus a show-biz mix.

Colbert, 51, comes to The Late Show after establishing himself in the guise of a messianic blowhard who spoofed Bill O'Reilly with maybe a touch of Rush Limbaugh thrown in.

On The Colbert Report, he played the host as a jerk, but endearing "someone who wasn't *aware* that he was a jerk; a well-intentioned, poorly informed, high-status idiot. I wasn't sure that I could get all four of those rotations on the ball. But it worked out."

His was a game of three-dimensional chess, especially with the interviews, which became his favourite part of the show, but they were also exhausting.

"Talking with a guest, I had to run everything through the CPU up here" — he points to the computer in his noggin' — "to grind out a version of myself, instantly, while keeping my intention as a satirist evident inside the Trojan horse of my character's role as a pundit who trades on divisiveness." Whew.

"I'm not tired when it's over. I feel great. That's the most startling thing to me.
Stephen Colbert, on interviewing as himself

Despite (or, more likely, because of) this Rube Goldbergian process, Colbert's interviews were not just funny, but as incisive as anyone's on TV. With his native observations shining through the prism of his on-screen persona, he emerged as a stealth truth-teller. On The Colbert Report he proved he could do the impossible. But now ...

"Can I do the POSSIBLE?!" he cuts in with a chortle.

He has no doubt that, yes, he can. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

George Clooney, Elon Musk and Kendrick Lamar are slated to appear on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert. GETTY IMAGES

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Steer Clear Of Tickets: New Ontario Rules Of The Road

With the passing of the Making Ontario's Roads Safer Act this summer, there are some new rules of the road coming into effect this fall that drivers need to know.

In an effort to ensure Ontario's roads and highways are safer, new road rules are being introduced that have a common theme: respecting other people's need for space to ensure their safety. Come this fall (but why wait) drivers are required to:

Give cyclists a bit of room When passing cyclists, drivers must maintain a minimum distance of one metre (approximately three feet) where possible. There is no set fine just yet, but there will be once the law comes into effect.

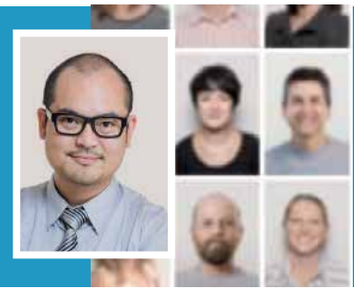
Slow down and move over for tow trucks Since 2003, drivers have been expected to slow down and move over for police and other first responders when stopped at the side of the road with their flashers on. The law now also applies to tow truck drivers as well. Fines range from $400 to $2,000.

Wait for pedestrians to completely cross the road At school crossings and crosswalks, drivers are expected to wait for pedestrians to safely arrive on the other side of the street before proceeding. Impatience could be costly. Fines range from $150 to $500.

Better safe than sorry

Sure, tickets and license suspensions will mean your car insurance rates will likely increase, but what's most important to remember is that these changes are about the safety of others on the road. Give people the space they need, don't drive distracted or impaired and watch out for cyclists.

Sam knows that by giving people the space they need, not driving distracted or impaired and watching out for cyclists, he will steer clear of tickets.



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Falling for you

It's soon time to put away your shorts, tanks and summer dresses. This autumn, androgyny reigned on the runway, the '70s and '80s became the referential decades, and designers saluted military fashion. AFP

John Galliano

GENDER BENDER

Fluid fashion

Androgynous style has inundated runways this year with men sporting womenswear looks and women donning more masculine wardrobes.

Very much Cara Delevingne-inspired, the trend calls for three-piece suits for women and oversized, deconstructed outerwear. Men are shown layering pants and skirts, while traditional staples were given feminine flourishes such as bows, ruffles and cinched waists.

Vivienne Westwood went all out on this trend. Models sashayed down the runway in brown tweed and grey pinstripe suits with broad, exaggerated shoulders. Both John Galliano and Julien David also showed several unisex looks, further boosting the trend for fall.

Topshop Unique

THROWBACK

Time travel

Hot on the trail of the '90s trend that has defined the past few years, the fall season takes us further back in time to the '70s and '80s.

The look is loud, showcasing key styles from both eras: turtlenecks (back in fashion since last year), flared pants, psychedelic prints, prominent florals, vinyl and lurex.

Loewe paid particular attention to the '80s this season, showcasing large lapels, graphic prints and boldly paring metallics with patents. JW Anderson also got on the lamé bandwagon. Slouchy leather boots and belts with bright, geometric acrylic buckles completed the looks.

Gucci and London by Topshop Unique showed bohemian looks.

Elie Saab

DETAILS

Military precision

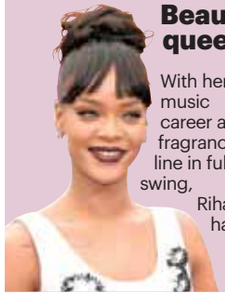
Military-inspired pieces marched down the runway this season. Double-breasted overcoats and outerwear like parkas and trenches dominated.

This year, discretion is key and designers have focused on the minor details that evoke a military feel — such as uniform buttons and nautical stripes.

Camouflage print is out, replaced by army green and khakis. The result is much more feminine, sophisticated and accessible. On the runway, khaki green was seen in a variety of shades and hues.

Designer Elie Saab presented his version of an officer's jacket with a stand-up collar and Isabel Marant used uniform buttons to her full advantage.

FASHION NOTES



Beauty queen

With her music career and fragrance line in full swing, Rihanna has suggested her next endeavor may be in cosmetics.

Rihanna discussed her plans during an interview to promote her newest fragrance, RiRi, when a Refinery 29 reporter asked her about a a trademark she registered last year for Fenty Beauty.

"It's something that I've always wanted to do," she told Refinery 29, "I'm going to find some time between albums and fragrance to do that. I promise."

The reporter went on to ask about some of the makeup items she might like to work on, to which Rihanna replied that there are "a lot," continuing, "Lashes that could just put themselves on ... lipstick that doesn't move, but doesn't dry your lips out, that you don't need a liner for. I mean, it sounds so unreal." AFP

The Row taking a New York minute

Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen's fashion brand is moving from New York to Paris to show at the city's spring fashion week.

The Row is off the New York schedule, reports WWD, and on Paris', although no further details, such as date, time or location, have been revealed.

The reason for the move is also unknown at this point.

The Row launched in 2006 and has shown up on the Paris schedule on one other occasion: in 2011, the twins took their show from New York to the later Paris fashion week due to sample delays.

Paris ready-to-wear fashion week begins Sept. 29 and runs through Oct. 7. AFP

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GOSSIP IN BRIEF Deflategate still hasn't blown over; Kermit spotted with a redhead

Tom and Gisele on the rocks

It hasn't been a great summer for Tom Brady, and not just where his football career is concerned. The embattled quarterback has reportedly also been facing the ire of wife Gisele Bundchen, who recently consulted a divorce lawyer, according to Us Weekly.

"Tom's become very nasty and irritable and started acting out on her" in the wake of the Deflategate scandal, a source says. NED EHRBAR/METRO

Oink with the old, in with the new

After Kermit the Frog and Miss Piggy ended their relationship less than a month ago, both have new love interests, according to People magazine. The magazine reports that Kermit "has been spotted around town numerous times" with another pig, a pale redhead called Denise. AFP

TWITTER TIFF

What do you mean, Lena Dunham?

Lena Dunham has spoken out to question the message behind Justin Bieber's new single What Do You Mean?

The tropical-tinged pop song finds Bieber cooing in the chorus: "What do you mean? When you nod your head yes, but you wanna say no." Earlier this week Dunham tweeted: "Let's do away with pop songs where a girl nods yes when she means no and vice versa, k?"

A day later, the Girls creator posted to Instagram side-by-side photos of herself and a younger Bieber with similar haircuts, and the caption: "How could anyone think I have an issue with Bieber?" THE CANADIAN PRESS

HARRY POTTER

A new generation heads to Hogwarts

Harry Potter's fictional son will be among the nervous British children making the move to big school this week, novelist J.K. Rowling has told fans in an announcement that made a generation of loyal readers feel old.

"I'm in Edinburgh, so could somebody at King's Cross wish James S Potter good luck for me? He's starting at Hogwarts today.

"#BackToHogwarts," Potter creator Rowling told her followers in a tweet on Tuesday. In a second tweet later in the day she said the 11-year-old, who was born in 2004 to Harry and Ginny Potter, had joined Gryffindor, the same house that his father attended at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry in Scotland. AFP

She said see you l8ter boi

SPLIT

Chavril announce separation on Instagram

Chavril is kaput.

Avril Lavigne and Chad Kroeger announced their separation on Lavigne's Instagram account on Wednesday, vowing to remain "the best of friends."

The couple's whirlwind romance began in March 2012, when Kroeger was enlisted to help with the songwriting on Lavigne's self-titled fifth record.

They began dating in July, became engaged in August, and married the following Canada Day at a grand medieval castle in France.

Over the last year, both Canadian rockers have dealt with health issues.

Lavigne, 30, conceded she was dealing with illness in December and clarified in May that she had been diagnosed with Lyme disease.

Kroeger, 40, had to recently cancel Nickelback tour dates in North America and Europe because the Hanna, Alta., singer required surgery for a cyst on his larynx.

Chad Kroeger and Avril Lavigne married in 2013. GETTY IMAGES

Lavigne's Instagram statement, which was accompanied by a photo of the couple dancing, referenced their shared musical accomplishments.

Kroeger co-wrote 10 tracks on Lavigne's last album, produced three and co-produced four. Their duet, Let Me Go, hit No. 12 on the Canadian chart and also made the Top 100 in the U.S., Australia and Germany.

"It is with heavy heart that Chad and I announce our separation today," wrote the Napanee, Ont., native.

"Through not only the marriage, but the music as well, we've created many unforgettable moments. We are still, and forever will be, the best of friends, and will always care deeply for each other.

"To all our family, friends and fans, thank you sincerely for the support."

It was the second marriage for Lavigne, whose union with Sum 41 rocker Deryck Whibley ended in 2010. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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metro HOME
Your essential daily news

Drape Turkish towels over chairs to jazz up an outdoor space

Developers get to the art of the matter

GIVING BACK

Funding for public projects a requirement for rezoning in some cities

CONDO TRENDS

Duncan McAllister

Public art enhances the urban experience and enlivens city streetscapes. In many Canadian municipalities, condo developers are required to contribute funding to the public realm as an offset for rezoning considerations.

In the city of Vancouver for example, rezonings greater than 100,000 square feet are required to contribute $1.81 per square foot to a public art process approved by the city. It's a way for developers to "give back" to the community, in the form of public parks, community centres, swimming pools and public art.

OTTAWA Top: The Corners on Main is a midrise condo project by Ottawa developer Domicile. Bottom: An art installation by Ottawa artist Stuart Kinmond, part of the redesign of Main Street, will feature a series of geometrically-shaped benches and three, six-metre towers. COURTESY DOMICILE

Ottawa

In Ottawa, the Corners on Main is a two-building, midrise condo project at the corner of Main Street and Oblate Avenue. This stretch of Main Street is slated for a complete makeover, planned by the city of Ottawa. Part of the design includes a city-commissioned art installation created by Ottawa artist Stuart Kinmond and will feature a series of geometrically shaped benches and three, six-metre towers. A series of glass images will depict landscapes of the Rideau Canal, the Rideau River and old Ottawa East.

Halifax

As part of an initiative to bring public art to the Halifax and Bedford waterfronts, Nova Scotia's Waterfront Development Corporation has partnered with condo developer Provident Developments to profile works by Maritimes-based artists Darren Byers and Fred Harrison.

Of Sea and Shore is a sculpture cast in bronze and textured with carvings. A stainless steel element represents the sprawling reach of the Bedford Basin. Standing four metres high, the sculpture will be located in a public outdoor space between the Dockside Condominiums on the Bedford waterfront.

Byers says that the elements come from patterns we see every day: "The texture in the rocks, the patterns in a field of grass, and the foam that forms as the water is stirred and flows."

Vancouver

Vancouver developer Westbank Projects has announced a new 59-storey, twisting condominium tower, a prominent landmark at Howe Street and Beach Avenue. Vancouver House will be one of the city's tallest residential towers, slated for completion in 2018.

The project will include one of Vancouver's most innovative works of public art: an installation by renowned local artist Rodney Graham. A giant spinning chandelier will be suspended beneath the Granville Street bridge, the gateway to the city's downtown core. The large kinetic sculpture will take the shape of a giant faux-crystal, 18th-century candelabra.

VANCOUVER Left: Westbank Projects has announced Vancouver House, a 59-storey, twisting condominium tower. Top: Part of the project, a giant spinning chandelier by B.C. artist Rodney Graham will be suspended beneath the Granville Street bridge. COURTESY WESTBANK

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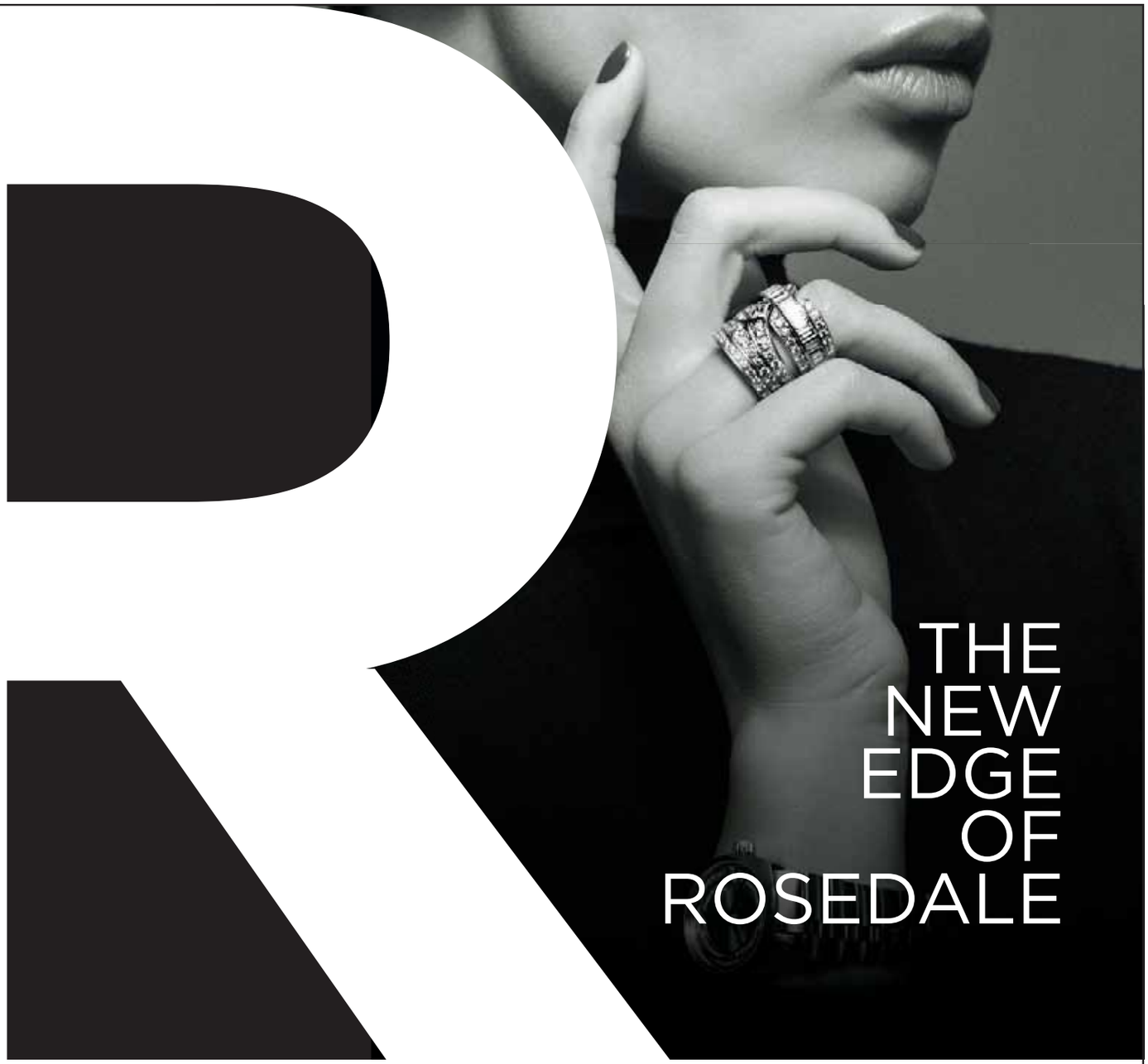

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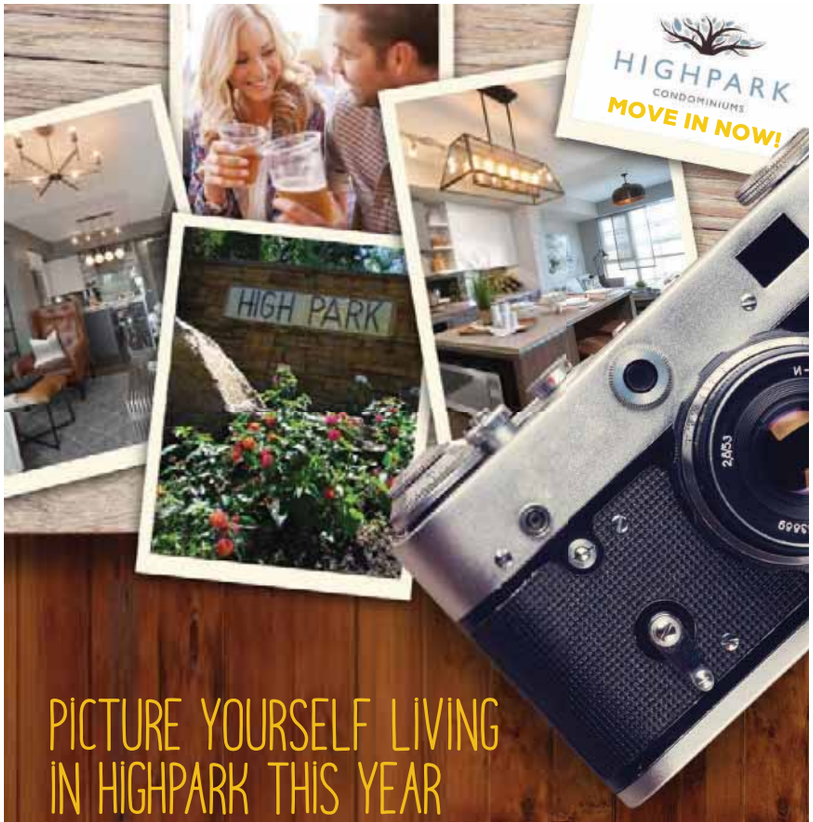

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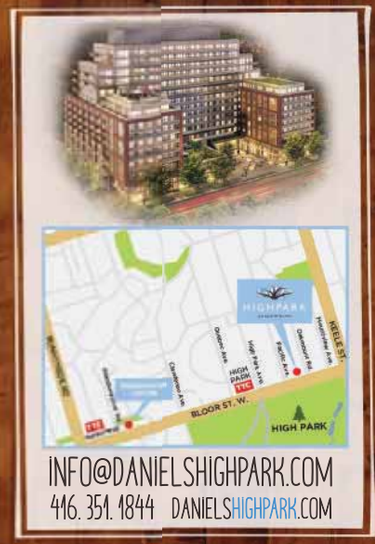

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REAL ESTATE

What's hot on the market

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

1 ETOBICOKE

Open house: Here's a two-bedroom-plus-den, waterfront suite in the Star Tower at Beyond the Sea condos. Head over to 2230 Lake Shore Blvd. W., on Sept. 5 and 6 from 2 to 4 p.m.

CONTACT: BRANDON MARC HEBERT, 416-949-7529

2 ETOBICOKE

Sales event: Empire Communities is launching a limited time, financial move-in incentive at Rain Condos in Oakville. Visit the presentation gallery at 70 Shepherd Rd., or call for details.

CONTACT: 905-845-7246, RAINCONDOS.COM

3 MISSISSAUGA

Now registering: Pemberton presents Tower 2 of their Downtown Erin Mills condominiums in Mississauga. Head over to the presentation centre at 4635 Metcalfe Ave.

CONTACT: 905-603-6300, PEMBERTONGROUP.COM

Giving back to the communities we create

Bryan Tuckey

Last week I joined a group of 20 BILD members to build homes for Habitat for Humanity GTA.

Every year BILD members volunteer to spend a day on a Habitat construction site building homes for partner families. It's a very rewarding experience, and I felt privileged to be a part of this year's build at Habitat's Brimley Road site in Toronto's east end.

Few of us had any real construction experience but Habitat's team of crew leaders were quick to assign us tasks that best fit our skill sets. We were broken up into groups and tasked with painting, trim work, concrete mixing and pouring, rebar cutting and fire stop installations in the underground garage.

It was a lot fun, but don't get me wrong — it was hard work and it really helped us appreciate what Habitat partner families give to achieve their dream of home ownership.

Habitat does not give homes away for free. Each family is required to contribute a minimum of 500 hours of volunteer "sweat equity" towards the construction of their home or on other Habitat projects.

Partner families must attend educational workshops to learn about the responsibilities that come with home ownership, including making timely mortgage payments on their Habitat homes. What's different about these mortgages is that they are owned by Habitat GTA, have no interest and require no down payment.

BILD is very proud of its partnership with Habitat for Humanity GTA, and our members have been building homes for partner families since 2003. We do this because we are strong believers in the value of home ownership and the benefits it brings to families and communities.

A recent study conducted by Habitat for Humanity Canada showed that owning a home contributes to a Habitat family's improved economic stability, children's education and overall health.

Today in the GTA buying a new home is becoming increasingly challenging for many residents, not just for lower-income families. Prices continue to increase, making it difficult for first-time buyers to enter the market.

Lack of serviced land designated for development has significantly limited supply of low-rise homes, while government fees and charges on all new homes continue to increase in municipalities across the region. Both of these factors have played a significant role in the substantial growth of housing prices in the GTA.

"Habitat does not give homes away for free."

BRYAN TUCKEY IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND A LAND-USE PLANNER WHO HAS WORKED FOR MUNICIPAL, REGIONAL AND PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS. FOLLOW HIM ON TWITTER @BILDGTA, FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA, AND BILDBLOGS.CA.

3 PIECES TO GIVE YOUR HOME THE MIDAS TOUCH

Gold-dipped decor is right on trend. These items give a room glamour without looking over-the-top.

EMILY LAURENCE/METRO IN NEW YORK CITY

1 Honey hued

A beehive-inspired decanter will be the centrepiece of your bar cart. $40 US, One Kings Lane

2 Silverware that shines

Silver and gold utensils match any dining set. $38 US, Anthropologie

3 Vases add variety

Brighten up your living room with a vase with a sunny streak. $35 US, Brit + Co

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Style that fits a student's needs

Tiny space? Tiny budget? No problem with these budget decor tips

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes

Q: I am an adult student renting a small, unfurnished room in a shared apartment for just this school year. This 8' x 11' room must serve as my study, sleep and entertaining area. I'd like to spend less than $1,000. What can I do?

A: The secret is to not overspend on the essential furnishings you will only need for one year. Investing in some nice bedding, towels and a comfortable mattress should be your goals here. I've scoured the retail shops to find you the most practical and affordable necessities for outfitting your room. They total just under $500, which will allow you plenty of extras for your mattress, bedding and towels.

Line the inside edges of your bed with cushions in order to create a couch-like support for sitting up when studying. The most inexpensive idea is to buy standard pillows and cover them with fun, decorative pillow cases that can be washed on a regular basis. **Northern Reindeer Standard Pillow Cases, $20/set of 2, Harmonie Standard Pillows from $8, Simons.ca**

I suggest a single bed and choosing a bunk-style bed will allow you to use the upper bunk for storage in your small room. This type of bed frame is easily broken down and stored at the end of your school year or sold off to an incoming student when you are finished. The wooden frame can be painted a fun colour, or left its natural wood colour. **Mydal Bunk Bed Frame, $160, IKEA.com**

Purchasing a few clip-on lights will allow you to move your lighting around the room as needed, from the side of your desk to on the rail of the bed. **Tensor Gooseneck Clip-On Desk Light, $14, Lowes.ca**

A floating, wall-mounted desk will allow for more floor space and versatility as to where you want to have your desk. These desks are also excellent for creating laptop storage areas in hallways or kitchens in the future. **Prepack Studio Floating Desk, $190, Lowes.ca**

Whether it be for studying at your desk or lounging with a guest, a padded desk chair is the most comfy option. **Mainstays Midback Chair, $60, Walmart.ca**

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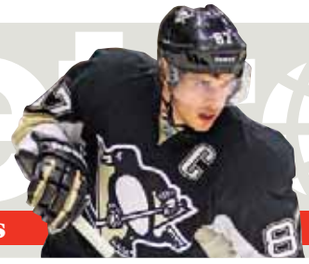


Sidney Crosby is again the top player in EA Sports' NHL 16 video game with a 96 rating

Jays slide by Indians

MLB

Donaldson tallies 3 RBIs, Dickey goes the distance

Josh Donaldson drove in three runs to add to his MLB-leading RBI total and R.A. Dickey pitched a complete game four-hitter as the Toronto Blue Jays defeated the Cleveland Indians 5-1 on Wednesday night.

With the sellout crowd chanting M-V-P, Donaldson singled and doubled twice before Cleveland finally induced him to ground out in the seventh inning. And Donaldson made that play close at the bag.

Dickey (10-10) retired the Indians in order in seven of his nine innings, retiring 14 batters at one point for his 99th career win and 15th complete game.

The surging Jays (76-57) have won 10 of their last 12 and are 31-11 since the all-star break.

Still, the New York Yankees defeated Boston 13-8 earlier in the day to remain 1-1/2 games back of the Jays in the American League East.

Toronto outhit Cleveland 9-4.

Toronto continued its onslaught on opposition pitching, leading 5-0 after two innings with the Rogers Centre roof open on a sticky September night before 46,538 — the Jays' 15th sellout of the season. Cleveland was certainly sweating, using four pitchers in the first four innings.

Dickey, meanwhile, shut the door on Cleveland as the Indians (64-68) lost their second straight after a six-game win streak. The 40-year-old knuckleballer retired Cleveland's first nine batters.

Dickey came into the game 6-0 since the all-star break, with a 3.05 ERA in nine starts.

Donaldson drove in a run in the first and two in the second, upping his RBI total to 111. He also showed off his hustle and athleticism, diving through the air to evade catcher Yan Gomes' tag and score on a shallow second-inning sacrifice fly by Troy Tulowitzki.

In the third, he challenged Indians left-fielder Michael Brantley and won, turning a single into his second double of the night.

Toronto has an off day Thursday before hosting the Baltimore Orioles on Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Josh Donaldson slides safely across home plate against Indians catcher Yan Gomes at Rogers Centre on Wednesday night.
TOM SZCZERBOWSKI/GETTY IMAGES

WEDNESDAY In Toronto

BLUE JAYS	INDIANS
5	1

HOT AUGUST

Encarnacion named AL player of the month

After dominating at the plate for all of August, Toronto Blue Jays slugger Edwin Encarnacion has been named the American League's player of the month.

Toronto's first baseman/designated hitter had a league-best .407 average for August, hitting 11 homers and driving in 35 runs over that span.

He also finished first in the league in slugging percentage (.907) and extra-base hits (21).

Encarnacion had a hit in every game he played in August as he built a 26-game hitting streak from July 26 to Aug. 31.

As his team goes, so does skip's diet

The Blue Jays' recent run of success has Toronto manager John Gibbons feeling good — and eating less.

In his normal pre-game chat with reporters Wednesday, the 53-year-old Gibbons said his diet is better as a winner.

"I eat less when things are going good," he said. "I'm a frustration eater.

"Look at me," he added with a self-deprecating grin.

Given the Jays lead the American League East with a 76-57 record, Gibbons has reason to smile. The team is 23-6 since the start of August.

John Gibbons
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gibbons said he worries less these days managing a winning club.

"The scoreboard dictates your life quite a bit," he acknowledged.

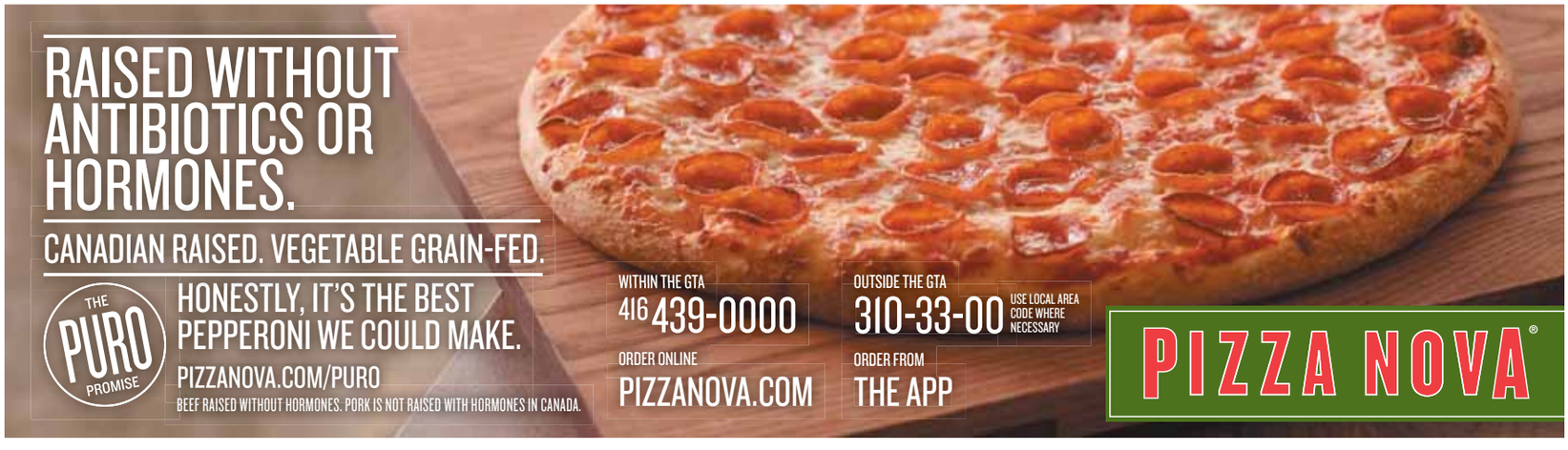
Barring player injuries, Gibbons joked his major worry was what he was going to eat for breakfast.

Perhaps it's a measure of Toronto's comfortable run of late that Gibbons was actually asked what his favourite breakfast was.

"I'm an omelette guy," he said.

Gibbons said despite his eating habits, his weight hasn't changed. Muscle weighs more than fat, he added with a smile.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Moving past their troubles

U.S. OPEN

Raonic fights through pain; Bouchard into third round too

Milos Raonic was lying prone on the court while a trainer put the tennis star through a series of stretches.

He had tore through the opening set of his second-round match at the U.S. Open when a troublesome back injury caught up with him. For a while, the 10th seed wondered if he'd be able to finish the match.

Raonic rebounded and toughed out a 6-2, 6-4, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (1) win over Spain's Fernando Verdasco on Wednesday to advance to the third round of the final Grand Slam of the season.

Later, Raonic was joined in the third round by fellow Canadian Eugenie Bouchard, who downed Polona Hercog of Slovenia 6-3, 6-7 (2), 6-3. Bouchard, who has struggled through much of the year after a fantastic 2014 season, has appeared strong in her first two matches in New York as she looks to end 2015 on a high note.

Eugenie Bouchard THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Milos Raonic AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Raonic needed just 26 minutes to win the first set. But it soon became clear the 24-year-old from Thornhill, who has battled injuries this season, was playing in discomfort.

He received treatment during a medical timeout in the second set and also received massages during some of the changeovers.

"There were sometimes doubts, should I keep going or not," Raonic said. "The worst part was it was sort of getting worse and worse.

"It is what it is. Deal with it and move on."

He was able to fight through the injuries and, after dropping his first set of the tournament in the third, cruised to an easy win in the fourth-set tiebreak.

Raonic fired 18 aces to Verdasco's 16 and broke the Spaniard on three of seven chances while saving all four break points.

"When I saw that I was able to hold serve, I guess I was always going to give myself some kind of a chance," Raonic said.

Raonic will face another Spaniard, 18th-seed Feliciano Lopez, in the third round.

Bouchard, from Westmount, Que., had 14 break-point chances against Hercog, converting seven of them. But Bouchard also saved just four of the nine break points she faced.

Bouchard will face Slovakia's Dominika Cibulkova in the third round.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

AROUND FLUSHING MEADOWS WEDNESDAY

Serena Williams had to dig deep in her surprisingly tough second-round match. STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES

Serena Slam alive despite second-round shakiness

Serena Williams' bid for a true Grand Slam is safe, despite an uneven performance in the U.S. Open's second round.

Overcoming 10 double-faults and two dozen other unforced errors, Williams emerged with a 7-6 (5), 6-3 win over 110th-ranked qualifier Kiki Bertens at Arthur Ashe Stadium.

No worries for Cilic

Defending champion Marin Cilic is taking a quick and quiet trip through this year's U.S. Open draw so far.

The ninth-seeded Croatian, whose only appearance in a Grand Slam final was a win at Flushing Meadows in 2014, reached the third round by beating Evgeny Donskoy of Russia 6-2, 6-3, 7-5.

Rafa earns a tough sweep

Fourteen-time major champion Rafael Nadal was pushed by 74th-ranked Diego Schwartzman of Argentina but was able to pull out the victory in straight sets on a humid day. He won 7-6 (5), 6-3, 7-5 in two hours, 41 minutes. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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FIBA AMERICAS

Canada corrects against Cuba

Andrew Wiggins and Nik Stauskas each had 15 points to lead Canada to a 101-59 rout of Cuba on Wednesday at the FIBA Americas men's basketball championship in Mexico City.

A day after losing their opener to Argentina, the Canadians came back with a complete team effort to book a spot in the second round.

Canada got huge bench contributions, with Brady Heslip and Dwight Powell scoring 12 and 10 points respectively and Aaron Doornekamp pulling down a game-high nine rebounds.

The result should boost the confidence of the Canadians, who are looking to finish in the top two of the 10-team tournament to qualify for the 2016 Rio Olympics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Andrew Wiggins blocks Cuba's William Granda during Wednesday's game in Mexico City. YURI CORTEZ/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

IN BRIEF

Lacrosse Tavares retires

John Tavares, the all-time leading scorer in National Lacrosse League history, has retired.

Tavares, who played his entire NLL career with the Buffalo Bandits, announced the end of his lacrosse career on Wednesday.

The 46-year-old from Toronto retires with 815 goals and 934 assists over 24 seasons in Buffalo.

He will remain with the team as an assistant coach.

His nephew, John Tavares, was drafted first overall by the NHL's New York Islanders in 2009 and is one of the league's top players. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steady Salvador hangs 'em up

Longtime defenceman Bryce Salvador has announced his retirement after playing 14 NHL seasons.

Salvador played 786 career games for the St. Louis Blues and New Jersey Devils, putting up 110 points while excelling as a shot-blocking, stay-at-home defender. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Carcillo helping hockey's soldiers

NHL

Ex Blackhawk's foundation an aid for players after retirement

Daniel Carcillo watched helplessly as his friend and former teammate Steve Montador struggled to adapt to life after hockey. Concussions had left Montador with memory loss so severe that the longtime defenceman carried multiple keys for the same lock.

He tried becoming a radio analyst, but when that didn't pan out, he seemed burdened by an uncertain future.

"He just didn't know what he wanted to do next," Carcillo said. "He was just searching for that. He was searching for a lot of things, as we're all going to do when we move on."

Last winter, Carcillo was in the Chicago Blackhawks players lounge when he got the devastating news. Montador, just 35, was found dead in his Mississauga, Ont., home.

The cause of death has never been made public. An autopsy showed he had CTE, the progressively degenerative disease that has been linked to repeated blows to the head.

While Montador's story is complicated and tragic, many former players also grapple to varying degrees with the reality of life after hockey. It's a cycle that goes on every summer as contracts dry up, and in the coming weeks as training camps open, more players will be forced to hang up their skates for good.

In the wake of Montador's death, Carcillo has launched the Chapter 5 Foundation to help hockey players and other athletes in the stressful transition to their next careers.

"It's a very abrupt reality check when you get out of the game," Carcillo said in a recent interview. "You identify with being a hockey player and an athlete for so many years that you kind of not lose yourself but you forget who you are as a person and what your interests were in high school away from hockey and who your friends were."

The NHL and NHL Players' Association team up for the NHL Alumni's BreakAway Program, which aids in that process by offering education and career strategy, counselling, entrepreneurial training, seminars and other assistance.

But as several retired players know from experience, there's no textbook on how to take that next step.

The transition from being a professional athlete to anything else actually begins while playing, financially and, perhaps more importantly, mentally. Many hockey players don't have the college education of athletes in other sports, a product of leaving home as teenagers to play at the junior level or elsewhere.

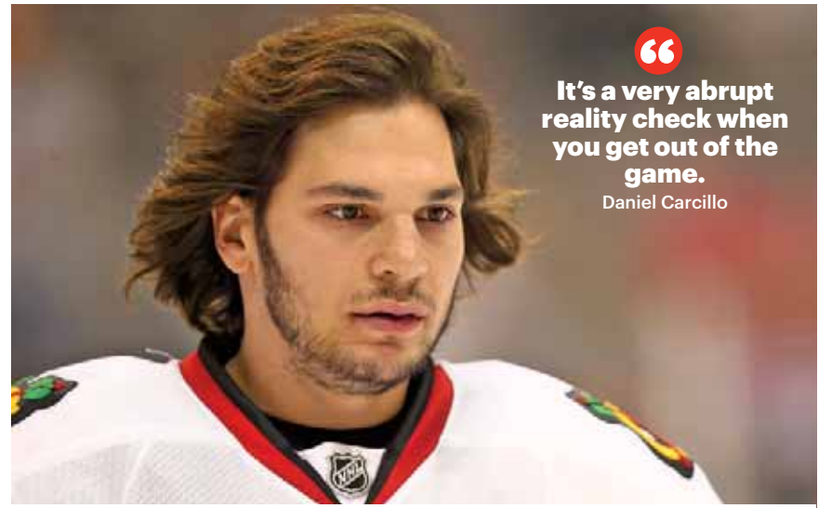
"We all had the one-track mind at one time, like, all we wanted to do was play pro hockey and we'll do anything in the world to do that," said Rick Berry, a defenceman-turned-financial adviser. "You think at the time you're just giving up maybe part of your youth and you're sacrificing part of your teenage years, but little did you know that it's a big catch-up period when you want to hit the stop button."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

GRIMSON'S TAKE

"No matter how much you prepare, you're never quite ready for that moment," said former enforcer Stu Grimson, who practised law in retirement before becoming a Nashville Predators TV analyst.

"Anybody — I don't care if you're a welder, a teacher, an accountant, a lawyer, whoever — if you do something for 15, 20 or more years and you're forced to turn and then go do something else, that's a traumatic life adjustment for anybody." THE CANADIAN PRESS



Daniel Carcillo is trying to help his fellow NHLers transition into regular life when their playing days are done. RONALD MARTINEZ/GETTY IMAGES

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RECIPE Apricot Soy-Glazed Chicken

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Rose Reisman
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A delicious and easy dish to prepare, made in minutes.

Ready in
Prep time: 10 minutes
Cook time: 15 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients
- 1 1/2 lb boneless chicken breasts
- 1/2 cup apricot jam
- 1/4 cup light soy sauce
- 2 tsp toasted sesame seeds
- 1/3 cup dried apricots
- 3 Tbsp chopped cilantro or parsley

Directions
1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Spray a baking sheet with vegetable oil.
2. In a heated grill pan, sear the chicken on both sides for about five minutes total. Place on baking sheet.
3. In a small skillet, add jam and soy sauce. Bring to a boil, then simmer for two minutes just until bubbling. Spoon half over chicken, sprinkle with sesame seeds and bake just until temperature reaches 165 F, about 10 minutes.
4. Meanwhile, add hot water to apricots and microwave on high for 30 seconds. Let sit for two minutes until plump. Drain and slice in half.
5. Serve with remaining sauce, sliced apricots and cilantro.

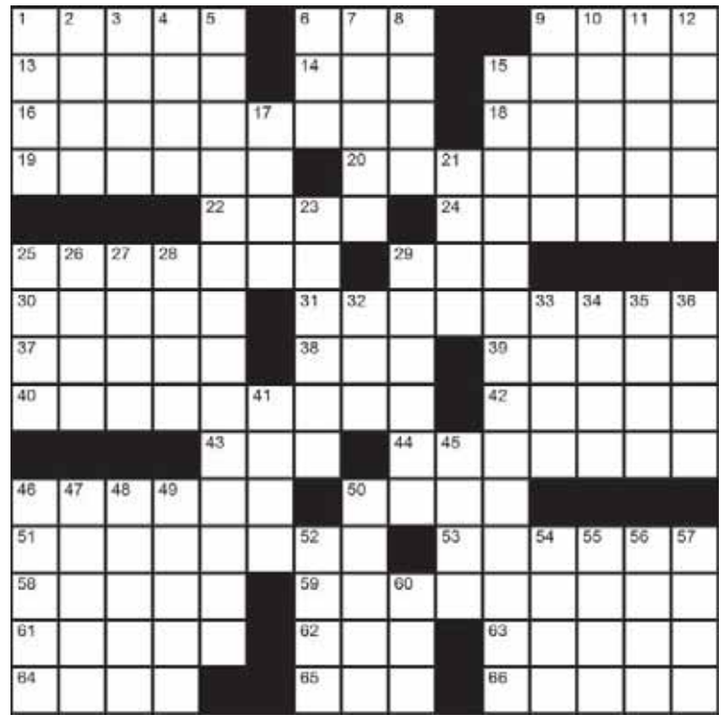
Nutrition per serving

- Calories 336.5
- Protein 41 g
- Carbohydrates 35 g
- Fibre 0 g
- Total fat 3 g
- Saturated fat 0.6 g
- Cholesterol 98 mg
- Sodium 640 mg

PHOTO: ROSE REISMAN

CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



ACROSS
1. Dapper shoe coverings
6. Abbreviations between the names of competing sports teams
9. Halt
13. Bound-to-the-land person of ancient Sparta
14. "The Simpsons" storekeeper
15. Where Tahrir Square is in Africa
16. Botanical garden
18. Earthenware pots
19. Austrian composer Mr. Mahler (b.1860 - d.1911)
20. Wheeled casino game
22. The _ Bible (John Kennedy Toole novel)
24. Snacked
25. Gives the class a project
29. Fish part
30. "Turn Me _" by Loverboy
31. Monstrous
37. Antelope of Africa
38. Dinghy direction-er
39. Ex-Pres. Bush's wife
40. Jock's 'shot' at the clinic
42. Bright beam
43. Mr. Barrett of early Pink Floyd
44. Puck no-go-inner's
46. Regular television show played by Canadian comic Norm Macdonald in commercials: 2 wds.
17. Balanced
21. Portion
23. "Sunday Morning" on CBS anchor Charles
25. Welsh composer Mr. Templeton
26. Unaccompanied
27. Go parasailing
28. "Say It _ So" by Hall & Oates
29. Precede
32. Sought the public's vote
33. Montreal-born humourist Mort
34. _ d'Orsay, in Paris
35. Montreal suburb, Baie-D'_
36. Depletes dinner
41. Procedure, for short
45. Great pitcher Mr. Hershiser
46. Glances over
47. Grain fungus
48. Kept going and going...: 2 wds.
49. "You're still the one _ _ good night..." (Shania Twain line)
50. Water nymph of ancient Greek mythology
52. Pod vegetable
54. Do a gift-giver's task
55. Magic spell starter...
56. Harness
57. Hideaways
60. Co. cousin
50. Fate goddess in Norse mythology
51. 1883's history-making volcano of Indonesia
53. Prince Island link
58. _ fatuus (Will-o'-the-wisp)
59. Defensive swarmer: 2 wds.
61. Highway-crossing danger
62. Laboratory labyrinth learner
63. _' to go (Eager)
64. Remote scientific facilities, e.g.
65. Do some math
66. Bridges

DOWN
1. Layered hairstyle
2. Modern spot of the Inca empire
3. Belonging to Calgary's prov.
4. Tugboat's sound
5. Song by Canadian animated pop duo Prozzak: 2 wds.
6. Cistern
7. Brush aside
8. Wrestling of Japan
9. Bargains
10. Farmland
11. Pontificate
12. Did a supermodel's work
15. KFC founder now

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS by Sally Brompton

Aries March 21 - April 20
Find a balance between the parts of your nature that like to feel secure and those parts that like to take a risk. Creatively and romantically this is a great time for you. Don't waste it on indecision or self-doubt.

Taurus April 21 - May 21
You play favorites but the current cosmic set-up is urging you to be even-handed in your approach to life and people you deal with on a one-to-one basis. Treat everyone with the same courtesy.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
Are your plans realistic? If they are you will make great progress. If not, you will be forced to rethink what you are doing.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Focus on quality rather than quantity. Too often in the past you have scattered your energies in all directions. Now you must concentrate on the two or three things you do really well.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
You will do something extra special today, something that gets you noticed. Do it with style and your name will be known by all the right people.

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Great changes are possible but you must be honest with yourself. Part of the reason you have not succeeded to the extent that you should have is because you have been unwilling to put a name to your desires.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
You are torn between the future and the past and must find ways to bring them together. The best way is to learn from what has gone wrong before and make sure you don't make the same mistakes again.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Stay true to what you believe in, even if it brings you into conflict with an authority. Just because someone is powerful does not mean they are right. Act on your principles.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
It is a waste of time trying to work out what is going to happen next. Go with the flow and trust that fate will steer you in the right direction — somehow it always does.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
You may feel sorry for people who are down on their luck but don't start thinking that you are to blame. The best way to do your bit for others is to take care of those you are closest to. Charity begins at home.

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You need to look at life from a more detached point of view. Some of the things you have allowed yourself to get worked up about are simply not worth the bother.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
Strive to find a middle way and you will do yourself a favour, especially on the work front where colleagues and employers will respond in kind if you are willing to give ground.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9

	1				7			
	3	8		6	2			
	9						1	
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